

ARMY



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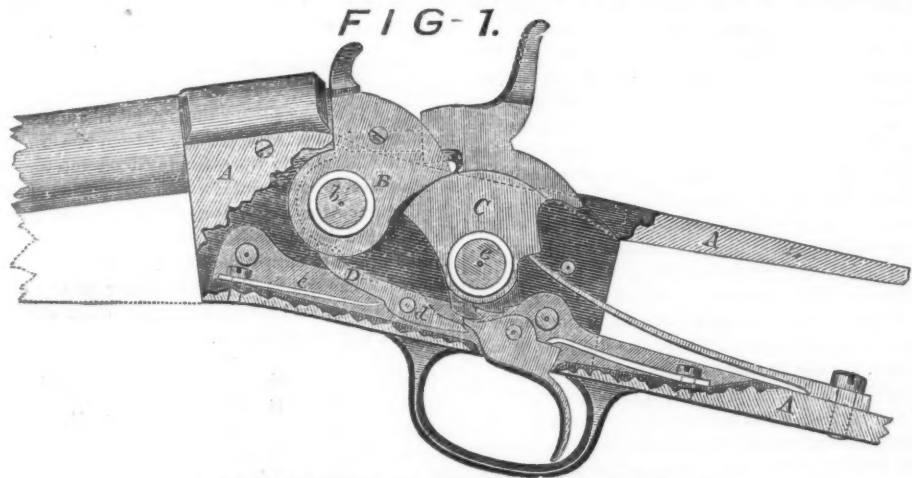
THE REMINGTON SYSTEM OF BREECH-LOADERS.

WE published some weeks since the report of the board appointed to make a selection of a breech-loading arm for the Navy, in which the

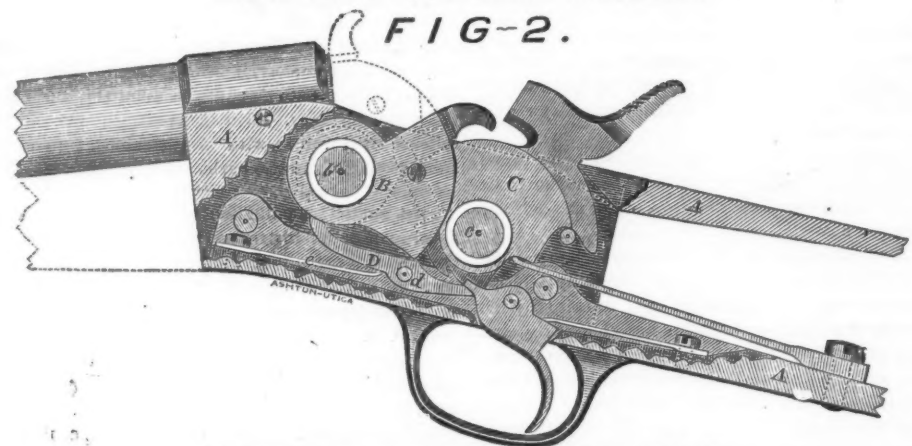
making 42,000 in all. Her neighbor, Sweden, has also ordered 30,000, and Spain has had 35,000 to arm her troops in Cuba. It has also received the endorsement of Papal infallibility to the extent of an order for 10,000 from Rome, and the Moham-

in four years, which proves that all inventions are not profitless.

Though we have already illustrated this system



SECTIONAL VIEW AT THE MOMENT OF DISCHARGE.



SECTIONAL VIEW WHEN OPEN TO RECEIVE CARTRIDGE.



Remington system of breech-loading was recommended for the breech parts of the guns used in naval service. The judgment of the board in selecting this system, in preference to others, has been fully approved by the action of other governments who have made trial of the Remington gun. Soon after it was introduced to public attention in 1866, the Danish Government adopted it and gave an order for 20,000, which were immediately put into the hands of the Danish troops; and 22,000 more were subsequently ordered by Denmark,

medan Government of Egypt has been furnished with 60,000 and Japan with 3,000. In our own country, South Carolina has had 5,000 transformed Springfields with which to arm her militia, the United States Navy 13,000 carbines, pistols, and transformed cadet rifles, and the United States Army 500 for trial in the hands of troops. These, with 10,000 furnished to private parties and other large orders, make a grand aggregate of more than a quarter of a million breech-loading arms on the Remington system manufactured or contracted for



CARBINE.



PISTOL.



MUSKET.

of breech-loading in the JOURNAL, we reproduce here our sectional views of the mechanism of the gun, adding drawings of the rifle, carbine, and

pistol, in which this system is applied to military arms. In these figures A A A indicate the receiver, B the breech-piece, C the hammer, D the locking lever, *a* the mainspring, *b b* the pins, *c* the trigger, *d* the lever spring, *e* the trigger spring, and *f* the firing pin.

The preceding drawings represent the Remington improved breech-loading rifle for military service, calibre 43-100ths or 50-100ths, with a 33-inch steel barrel, and weighing 8.1-2 lbs.; the Remington carbine; and the Remington new single breech-loading Army and Navy pistol, on the same system as the Remington rifle, with central or rim fire, using metallic cartridges of 50-100ths calibre. The length of barrel of this pistol is 8 inches and its weight 35 oz. It has many advantages over a revolver for the use of enlisted men, and is a favorite among naval officers.

From its wide distribution in all latitudes, the Remington arm has been thoroughly tested as to its adaptation to any condition of climate, and has much of the rough experience of campaigning to test its efficiency for service in the field. The Spanish authorities in the island of Cuba certify that in the battalions of the Spanish army where these arms have been tried, "they have proven their superior quality, both as regards precision and strength." The certificate to this fact bears the signatures of "DON JUAN DE OJEDA Y ALCARAY, colonel of artillery, decorated with the grand and also with the inferior cross of San Hermenegildo, and with two of San Fernando; also commander of Isabel la Catolica, and with other marks of honor for deeds of war—director of the arsenal of this island" (Cuba); and of his sub-inspector, "General ANTONIO VENENC, decorated with the grand cross of San Hermenegildo and that of Isabel la Catolica; commander of the same, and also twice honored with the decoration of San Fernando, and many others on account of deeds of war, etc., etc., etc."

The Spanish sub-inspector, General RAFAEL CLAVJO, chief of engineers, and EUGENIO LONO, chief of the civil guard in Cuba, give similar testimony to the merits of the Remington system.

At Liege, Belgium, one of the Remington rifles was tested with a proof charge of 750 grains of powder and 40 balls, which occupied 36.31 inches, and filled the barrel to the muzzle. A prize trial for rapidity was also instituted, at which the following conditions were established:

1. The competitors will perform a series of fifteen shots, the gun at the hip.
2. Will dismount the mechanism of their arm, placing on a table and separate from each other the parts that close the breech, the hammer, percussion springs (main), and those of the closing block, if any. (The trigger may remain in its place.)

3. Will assemble the mechanism, and will then fire another series of fifteen shots, with the gun at the hip. The ammunition may be taken from a table within reach of the person firing. Time occupied (in these operations) will be measured by the *sachimetre*, as follows:

1. Between the first and the fifteenth shot of the first series of firing, for rapidity.
2. Between the fifteenth shot of the first series and the first of the second series.
3. Between the first and the fifteenth of the second series.

The prize offered for the gun with which these three operations were completed in the shortest time was granted to the Remington system, which satisfied the conditions of the trial in 1 minute and 39 seconds, having within this time been fired fifteen times, then taken in pieces, reassembled, and again fired fifteen times.

Favorable reports of the results of its use in the hands of troops have also been received from Sweden and Denmark.

The Remington arm is very simple as well as strong, its lock for firing and the breech-loading mechanism being composed of very few simple parts, all securely protected in the frame, the weakest point, the neck, being guarded by the upper and lower extension of the frame. At the moment of discharge, the breech-piece is supported by the front part of the hammer, which forms a shoulder to receive

the recoil, and the entire strain upon the axis of the breech-piece comes on that part in the rear of the forward pin, as has been demonstrated by experiments, in which the arm has been successfully fired after having the front portion of the axis of its breech-piece removed by filing. The breech-piece and the hammer are of considerable weight and thickness, and of the best solid steel. They, in turn, are supported by solid steel pins, nearly half an inch in thickness, which pass through the strong iron frame from side to side. The metal in all these parts is so located as to equalize their capacity to resist the action of recoil. In consequence of the peculiar interlocking and bracing of the hammer and breech-piece, the hammer is locked securely by the recoil, and the more securely the greater the recoil.

In addition to these peculiarities, the following advantages are claimed for the Remington system:

The common soldier requires only the briefest instruction or training. The motions are few, easy, and natural, with the hand in its old accustomed position and the finger constantly on the trigger. In sharp-shooting contests or in close engagements, where the gun is handled closely parallel to the ground or top of breastworks, the Remington arm can be loaded without exposure of the hand above the line of the barrel, and without raising the gun to operate it by any lever below (as in certain other arms); neither need the repose of the gun be disturbed—thereby attracting the attention of the enemy or distracting the previously adjusted aim of the person firing.

Putting in the cartridge is effected by merely entering it at the mouth of the chamber and swinging forward the breech-piece to push it in (instead of using the finger for the latter purpose, as in certain other arms, which would be likely to burn them when the barrel is hot from frequent firing). When the breech-piece is thus closed, the arm is ready for discharge.

Withdrawal of the empty shell is accomplished by a strong and sure extractor (no spring), having a straight backward motion, in the act of opening the breech-piece to receive subsequent charge; the breech-piece (being a lever to the extractor) withdraws the shell easily.

The motions of loading being all performed from the wrist, by thumb and finger of a single hand, the Remington carbine is most easily managed (particularly when slung to the shoulder or saddle) by cavalry requiring one hand for the reins.

The mechanism can be readily dismounted, cleaned, and reassembled by a novice; and the barrel can be examined by the eye, and cleaned from either end, without dismounting any part.

The Remington system has developed the greatest rapidity of firing consistent with the simplicity requisite for a military arm. It is believed that its rapidity has never been excelled by any single breech-loading arm operated under like conditions, nor even by any repeating arm, employed several minutes in continuous firing.

A complicated and ingenious mechanism—though working like magic in the hands of the skillful inventor or expert—would prove inefficient amid the rust, dust, and wear of a military campaign.

There is no danger of accident from ignorance of the contents of the gun, or of the position of the parts, as might be in the case of an "enclosed chamber" or "concealed hammer." When loaded and at half-cock or safety notch, this arm cannot be discharged by accidentally pulling the trigger, nor by any violent concussion, as in the act of ordering arms. This gun can be made of any desired weight, from 6 to 10 pounds, depending upon dimensions of the barrel required.

It is well known that accuracy and range in shooting depend upon the barrel and kind of ammunition used. Barrels of any required length, calibre, or rifling, and suited to any metallic cartridge, can be readily used in the Remington system. It is believed that the most improved system of rifling is employed in manufacturing the present arm. The Remington system is well adapted to the requirements of all branches of the service, thus obviating the necessity of different kinds of supplies for repairs, all the like parts being interchangeable. It is also fitted to secure uniform calibre, whereby carbine and even pistol cartridges can be used in rifles, in case of necessity, in a "mixed command."

Springfield and Enfield rifles are easily transformed into breech-loaders of the same calibre, by substituting the Remington system in place of the old lock, which can be done for less than half the cost of a new gun. And if at any time after such alteration, it should be deemed desirable to substitute a new barrel of improved calibre and rifling, that can also be done by screwing

the new one into the same breech system. Thus the transformation of the old guns is so much directly toward new ones.

The severe tests to which it has been subjected is warrant for the justice of these claims, and we are glad that it has been adopted by the board appointed to make a selection of a breech-loading arm for the Navy. Ten thousand muskets of this pattern are now being made at the Springfield Armory.

THE ARMY.

AN order has been issued from the War Department directing all officers of the Army lately on reconstruction duty in Mississippi to return to their homes, as their services are no longer required there.

IN the case of the United States against Hosmer, the Supreme Court of the United States has decided, Mr. Justice Swayne delivering the opinion, that a soldier enlisting under the call for troops in 1861, on the promise therein made of \$100 bounty, was entitled to that bounty when honorably discharged, although he was not discharged for wounds and did not serve two years, as provided by the act of Congress subsequently passed relating to those enlistments. The complainant was discharged for disability, on surgeon's certificate.

IN the case of the Government vs. Merrill, it has been decided in the Supreme Court of the United States that the act of Congress giving three months' additional pay to officers of volunteers discharged from service, did not apply to officers who were mustered out of the volunteer service to resume their rank and pay as officers of the Regular Army. It was held that the discharge must be an entire discharge from the military service of the United States to entitle the officer to the additional pay allowed. The claimant was an officer of the Regular Army, and resumed his rank and pay when discharged from the Volunteer service.

IN accordance with instructions from division headquarters, Company G, Twelfth Infantry (excepting the detachment ordered to be left at Camp Colorado), was ordered, February 25, to proceed to San Diego, California, and take post at that station, relieving Lieutenant T. T. Thornburg, Second Artillery, and the detachment under his command. If water transportation can be had from the station of this company to Fort Yuma, without delaying the company, it will proceed by that route, and march thence to San Diego; otherwise it will march the entire distance. Lieutenant Thornburg, on being relieved, will return with his detachment to their respective stations in the harbor of San Francisco.

THE annual examination of the lieutenants and enlisted men under instruction at the Artillery School, for the present year, will commence on Friday, April 1, proximo, at 10 o'clock A. M., and will continue thereafter daily (Sundays excepted), between the hours of 10 A. M. and 2 P. M., until completed. The staff of the school have adopted the following rules for conducting the examination, and for determining the standing of individuals: The order of the examinations shall be, 1st, the theoretical course, and 2d, the practical course. The sections will be examined separately in each subject, and the examination in one subject will be completed before the next subject is taken up. The subjects will be taken up in the following order, viz.: Law, history, engineering, ordnance, and gunnery. Inasmuch as the course of mathematics for officers during the present year was designed to be simply disciplinary, and preparatory to the regular course of theoretical instruction, there will be, this year, no examination in that subject, and the standing of officers in mathematics, as determined by their daily marks, will not, for this year, be considered in making up their standing in general merit.

At the examination in the practical course, each lieutenant will be required to drill a gun detachment at each kind of gun, howitzer, and mortar used in the United States service; to explain the various mechanical manoeuvres, causing such of them to be executed as may be called for by the staff; and finally, of an examination of each lieutenant, by questions, in the artillery and infantry tactics, Kautz's Customs of Service, Kautz's Company Clerk, and the Army Regulations. The marks that have been given in the practical course will be submitted to the staff, to assist in determining the standing of individuals in that course. The standing in each subject, and in general merit, will be determined as at the United States Military Academy at West Point; and for determining the standing in general merit, the different subjects will bear the following relative value: The practical course 300, ordnance and gunnery 300, engineering 250, mathematics 250, military history 250, military law 200.

The examination of the enlisted men who have been under instruction will commence as soon as that of the lieutenants shall have been completed, and will be conducted in the same manner as were their daily recitations, except that in writing the examination will consist of an inspection of copy-books. The standing of enlisted men in each subject, and in general merit, will be determined as is above prescribed in the case of the lieutenants; but in determining the standing of the enlisted men in general merit, the different subjects will have the following relative value, viz.: Practical course 300, mathematics 300, geography 200, history 200, writing 100.

The examination of the various sections in the theoretical course will be conducted by the respective instructors; but in the practical course it will be conducted by the staff. The examination will take place in the lecture room (barrack No. 1), at which place the entire staff will attend daily (Sundays excepted), at 10 minutes before 10 o'clock.

ABSTRACT OF SPECIAL ORDERS

Issued from the Adjutant-General's Office for the week ending March 14, 1870.

Tuesday, March 8.

By direction of the Secretary of War, the unexecuted portion of the sentence of a general court-martial, promulgated in General Orders No. 66, of August 24, 1864, from headquarters Department of Arkansas, directing that Private John Hogan, Company E, Eighteenth Illinois Infantry Volunteers (now in confinement in the Ohio State Penitentiary, Columbus, Ohio), "to be confined for the term of twenty-one years in the penitentiary at Joliet, Illinois," is hereby remitted, and he will be released from confinement upon the receipt of this order at the place where he may be confined.

Private George Lander, Company F, First U. S. Infantry, having been appointed hospital steward U. S. Army by the Secretary of War, will report by letter to the commanding general Department of the Lakes for assignment to duty.

By direction of the Secretary of War, so much of Special Orders No. 53, March 5, 1870, from this office, as relieved Captain V. Van Antwerp, military storekeeper Quartermaster's Department, from duty at San Antonio, Texas, and granted him leave of absence for thirty days, at the expiration of which he was directed to report for duty by letter to the Quartermaster-General of the Army, is hereby so amended as to relieve him from duty May 1, 1870, from which date his leave will take effect.

The resignation of Second Lieutenant Charles G. Eckhart, Fourth U. S. Artillery, has been accepted by the President, to take effect September 1, 1870, on condition that he receive no final payments until he shall have satisfied the Pay Department that he is not indebted to the United States.

The extension of leave of absence granted First Lieutenant H. H. Abell, Seventh U. S. Cavalry, in Special Orders No. 7, January 17, 1870, from headquarters Military Division of the Missouri, is hereby further extended twenty days.

Wednesday, March 9.

First Lieutenant W. H. W. Krebs, Seventeenth U. S. Infantry, is hereby authorized to draw advance transportation to San Antonio, Texas, under Special Orders No. 54, March 7, 1870, from this office, directing him to report to Brevet Brigadier-General Graham, president of a general court-martial, as a witness in the case of Major Stewart, paymaster.

Upon the recommendation of the Chief of Engineers, First Lieutenant William H. Chase, Corps of Engineers, is hereby relieved from duty under the immediate orders of Brevet Major-General G. K. Warren, major Corps of Engineers, and will proceed to San Francisco, California, and report to Brevet Brigadier-General B. S. Alexander, lieutenant-colonel Corps of Engineers, senior engineer Pacific coast, for duty with the Board of Engineers for fortifications for the Pacific coast.

Upon the receipt of this order, Superintendent C. W. Erdman will repair to Brownsville, Texas, and assume charge of the national cemetery at that place.

Thursday, March 10.

By direction of the Secretary of War, Second Lieutenant Peter Leary, Jr., Fourth U. S. Artillery, will repair to Topeka, Kansas, by April 11, 1870, and place himself in communication with Albert H. Horton, Esq., U. S. Attorney for Kansas, for the purpose of giving testimony before the U. S. District Court of the District of Kansas, in the case of the United States vs. M. L. Dunn, late postmaster at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. As soon as his services can be dispensed with he will rejoin his proper station.

The telegraphic order of the 9th instant, from this office, granting First Lieutenant Clinton B. Sears, Corps of Engineers, permission to delay two weeks in complying with Special Orders No. 50, March 2, 1870, from this office, directing him to report to the commanding general Military Division of the Pacific for duty, is hereby confirmed.

Friday, March 11.

By direction of the Secretary of War, on the recommendation of the Quartermaster-General, so much of General Orders No. 16, February 7, 1870, from this office, as relieved Captain Daniel G. Thomas, military storekeeper, Quartermaster's Department, from duty in Washington, D. C., on or before July 1, 1870, and directed him to report to the general commanding the Department of Dakota for assignment, is hereby amended so as to relieve him from duty in this city by April 1 next, and direct him to report in person to the general commanding the Department of the Platte for duty in that command.

The telegraphic order of the 9th instant, from this office, authorizing the commanding general Department of the Cumberland to order to their homes all officers who have been on reconstruction duty in the late Fourth Military District whose services are no longer required, is hereby confirmed.

Permission to delay thirty days in reporting to the commanding officer of his regiment, as directed in Special Orders No. 33, March 7, 1870, from headquarters General Recruiting Service, New York city, is hereby granted Brevet Major Charles J. Von Herrmann, captain Fourth U. S. Infantry.

By direction of the Secretary of War, the Quartermaster's Department will furnish Michael Donnelly, formerly private Company G, Forty-second U. S. Infantry, with transportation from Troy, New York, to this city, to enable him to enter the Soldiers' Home, the cost of which will be refunded to the Quartermaster's Department by the Surgeon-General U. S. Army, from the fund appropriated for the benefit of discharged soldiers by the act of Congress approved July 5, 1862.

As soon as the interests of the service will permit, the commanding general Department of the Platte is authorized to grant a furlough for sixty days to Private John O'Keefe, Company A, Second U. S. Cavalry, with permission to go beyond the sea.

The unexecuted portion of the sentence of a general court-martial, promulgated in General Orders No. 64, of August 26, 1869, from headquarters Department of the South, directing that Private William Dougherty, Company G, Eighteenth U. S. Infantry, "be dishonorably discharged the service of the United States; to forfeit all pay and allowances now due or that may become due, except the just dues of the laundress; and to be confined at Fort Macon, North Carolina, for the balance of his term of enlistment, December 13, 1871," is hereby remitted, and he will be released from confinement upon the receipt of this order at the place where he may be confined.

On the recommendation of the regimental commander, Second Lieutenant James E. Bell, First Artillery, is hereby transferred from Company L to Company M of that regiment, and will join his proper station without delay.

Saturday, March 12.

By direction of the Secretary of War, Major P. P. G. Hall, paymaster, will report without delay to the Paymaster-General of the Army for the purpose of settling and closing his official accounts.

By direction of the Secretary of War, the Quartermaster's Department will furnish John B. Tracy, formerly sergeant of Company B, Forty-second U. S. Infantry, with transportation from Albany, N. Y., to this city, to enable him to enter the Soldiers' Home, the cost of which will be refunded to the Quartermaster's Department by the Surgeon-General U. S. Army, from the fund appropriated for the benefit of discharged soldiers by the act of Congress approved July 5, 1862.

Private James A. Ames, General Service U. S. Army, now supposed to be on duty at headquarters Department of Dakota, having been appointed hospital steward U. S. Army, by the Secretary of War, will report to the commanding general Department of Dakota for assignment to duty.

The superintendent Mounted Recruiting Service, Carlisle Barracks, Pa., will forward without delay, under proper charge, all disposable recruits at that depot to Omaha, Nebraska, where they will be reported, upon arrival, to the commanding general Department of the Platte for assignment to the Second U. S. Cavalry.

The leave of absence granted Captain G. W. Bradley, assistant quartermaster, in Special Orders No. 12, January 18, 1870, from headquarters Department of the Missouri, is hereby extended until May 1, 1870.

[There were no Special Orders issued from the Adjutant-General's Office on Monday, the 14th inst.]

COURTS-MARTIAL.

A GENERAL Court-martial was to convene at San Antonio, Texas, March 15, for the trial of Major Isaac S. Stewart, paymaster U. S. Army. Detail: Brevet Brigadier-General Lawrence P. Graham, colonel Fourth U. S. Cavalry; Brevet Major-General Alvan C. Gillem, colonel Eleventh U. S. Infantry; Brevet Major-General James H. Carleton, lieutenant-colonel Fourth U. S. Cavalry; Major William Smith, paymaster U. S. Army; Major Dallas Bache, surgeon U. S. Army; Brevet Major Samuel T. Cushing, captain and commissary of subsistence U. S. Army; Brevet Major Thomas C. Bradford, captain Ordnance Department, U. S. Army; Captain David W. Porter, assistant quartermaster U. S. Army; Brevet Major Joseph Rindfleisch, captain Fourth U. S. Cavalry; Major De Witt Clinton, judge-advocate U. S. Army, judge-advocate.

A GENERAL Court-martial is appointed to meet at Fort Randall, D. T., the 15th of April, for the trial of Second Lieutenant Charles H. Leonard, Thirteenth Infantry, and such other prisoners as may properly be brought before it. Detail: Brevet Major-General D. S. Stanley, colonel Twenty-second Infantry; Brevet Major Charles A. Webb, captain Twenty-second Infantry; Captain E. F. Wenckebach, U. S. Army, unassigned; Brevet Major Douglas Pope, first lieutenant U. S. Army, unassigned; First Lieutenant W. E. Hoffman, U. S. Army, unassigned; First Lieutenant George Mitchell, U. S. Army, unassigned; Second Lieutenant F. L. Davis, Twenty-second Infantry. Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel G. Norman Lieber, major and judge-advocate U. S. Army, judge-advocate.

On surgeon's certificate of disability, leave of absence for thirty days, with permission to leave the limits of the Fifth Military District and to apply to the Adjutant-General of the Army for an extension of sixty days, has been granted Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel John B. Johnson, captain Sixth U. S. Cavalry. This leave to take effect upon the arrival of Major A. K. Arnold, Sixth U. S. Cavalry, at Waco, Texas.

ARMY PERSONAL.

CAPTAIN D. P. Heap, Corps of Engineers, is announced as chief engineer of the Department of Dakota.

MAJOR Abraham K. Arnold, Sixth U. S. Cavalry, has been ordered to Waco, Texas, to assume command of that post.

LEAVE of absence for twenty days was granted Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel James N. McElroy, captain Eighth Cavalry, March 1.

LEAVE of absence for twenty days was, March 2, granted First Lieutenant J. Lee Humfreys, Ninth U. S. Cavalry, Fifth Military District.

BREVET Captain B. J. Grafton, second lieutenant Eleventh U. S. Infantry, has been granted permission to apply to the Adjutant-General of the Army for a further extension of thirty days to his leave.

BREVET Brigadier-General Buell has been granted, from headquarters Fifth Military District, permission to apply to the Adjutant-General of the Army for an extension of thirty days to his leave.

BREVET Captain Charles Parker, first lieutenant Ninth U. S. Cavalry, has been relieved from duty at Fort Duncan, Texas, and ordered to Fort Concho, Texas, for assignment to duty with Company B, Ninth U. S. Cavalry.

LEAVE of absence for thirty days, on surgeon's certificate of disability, with permission to go beyond the limits of the Department of the Missouri, was granted Second Lieutenant Franklin Yeaton, Third U. S. Cavalry, March 10.

FIRST Lieutenant Samuel E. Armstrong, U. S. Army, has been ordered, upon expiration of his leave of absence, to repair to Fort McKavett, Texas, and report to the regimental commander Twenty-fourth U. S. Infantry, for duty.

CHARLES J. RASCH, hospital steward U. S. Army, has been ordered from St. Louis, Missouri, to Fort Leavenworth, Kansas; and Acting Assistant Surgeon Francis P. Cleary, U. S. Army, from St. Louis, Missouri, to Camp Supply, I. T.

LEAVE of absence for thirty days, with permission to leave the limits of the Fifth Military District and to apply to the Adjutant-General of the Army for an extension of sixty days, was, March 2, granted Brevet Captain Joseph C. McBride, first lieutenant U. S. Army.

BREVET Lieutenant-Colonel Warren Webster, major and surgeon U. S. Army, has been relieved from duty as medical director Fifth Military District. Brevet Major J. V. D. Middleton, captain and assistant surgeon U. S. Army, will remain in charge of the office until properly relieved.

ON surgeon's certificate of disability, leave of absence for thirty days, with permission to leave the limits of the Fifth Military District, and to apply to the Adjutant-General of the Army for an extension of ninety days, was, February 28, granted First Lieutenant George W. Smith, U. S. Army.

SECOND Lieutenant James H. Jones, Fourth U. S. Cavalry, has been relieved from temporary duty at the post of Austin, Texas, and ordered to the station of his company, Lampasas, Texas, for duty. First Lieutenant Thomas Dunn, U. S. Army, has been relieved at Lampasas and ordered to Austin.

LEAVE of absence for thirty days, with permission to leave the limits of the Fifth Military District and to apply to the Adjutant-General of the Army for an extension of sixty days, has been granted Brevet Brigadier-General Randal S. Mackenzie, colonel Twenty-fourth U. S. Infantry. This leave not to take effect before April 15, 1870.

MAJOR G. W. Candee, paymaster U. S. Army, was ordered, March 10, to proceed without delay from Fort Smith, Arkansas, to Forts Gibson, Arbuckle, and Sill, I. T., and Major David Taylor, paymaster U. S. Army, from Leavenworth City to the stations of the troops in South-eastern Kansas, for the purpose of paying them to the 23rd of February, 1870.

FIRST Lieutenant C. L. Umbstaetter, Third U. S. Infantry, having completed his duties at the headquarters Department of Missouri, was ordered, March 10, to proceed to his station at Fort Larned, Kansas. He has permission to delay ten days en route for the purpose of attending to official business at Forts Leavenworth and Harker, and at Ellsworth City, Kansas.

THE following officers were registered at headquarters Department of the East for the week ending March 9, 1870: Captain Madison Earle, U. S. Army; Second Lieutenant Jacob A. Augur, Fifth U. S. Cavalry; Captain G. W. Bradley, A. Q. M., U. S. Army; Second Lieutenant J. E. Sawyer, Fifth U. S. Artillery; Second Lieutenant Loyall Farragut, Fifth U. S. Artillery.

ACTING Assistant Surgeons L. L. Dorr and H. M. Kirke were ordered, Feb. 28, to proceed to San Francisco and report to the medical director Department of California for the annulment of their contract. Hospital Steward Judson J. Rogers, U. S. A., was relieved from duty at Camp McDowell, Arizona, and ordered to San Francisco, and Hospital Steward John Wilson, U. S. A., is assigned to duty at Camp Cody, Cal.

IN accordance with the provisions of the act of Congress terminating the assignment to duty of all retired officers, Brevet Captain George Williams, U. S. A. (retired), has been relieved from duty as aide-de-camp upon the staff of Brevet Major-General Crook, commanding Department of the Columbia, and ordered to proceed to his home and report thence, by letter, to the Adjutant-General of the Army. In promulgating this order General Crook says: "Captain Williams has been connected with the department staff for a long time; has discharged the duties assigned him faithfully and well; and it is but justice to say, that it will be long before the officers of the command will forget the brave soldier, the blunt but honest and kind-hearted gentleman, Captain George Williams."

THE LATE GENERAL MILLER.

(From the Utica Herald, March 12.)

INTELLIGENCE was received by telegraph yesterday, from New Orleans, of the death of General Morris S. Miller, U. S. A., at noon. General Miller had been stationed for about a year past at Austin, Texas, and was recently ordered to Detroit, and was on his way there, with his family, when his death occurred.

General Miller was the second son of Judge Morris S. Miller, an early and prominent citizen of Utica, and was born April 2, 1814. In 1830 he entered the Military Academy at West Point, graduated in 1834, and was immediately appointed Brevet Second Lieutenant, Third regiment Artillery. He was in continuous service for thirty-five years, and in that period participated in the Florida and Mexican wars, and rendered most efficient service to the Government through the late war.

He was stationed with a single company of about forty men at Fort King, Fla., in 1835, when the war was begun by Osceola there, by the massacre of the Indian agent, and his clerks, and was besieged there for two months by the Indians before General Gaines arrived with succor from New Orleans. Subsequently to the Florida war he was on the recruiting and ordnance service in various places. He served under General Wool on the northern frontier during the "patriot war" in 1837-8. In 1844-5, he was stationed at Fort Moultrie, and often drilled the battalion in which were Lieutenants W. T. Sherman, Geo. H. Thomas, T. W. Sherman, and J. F. Reynolds, since generals.

At the outbreak of the Rebellion, Major Miller had been for some time in the Quartermaster-General's office in Washington, and all the arrangements for providing for the arrival of troops for the defence of the capital fell to him. Immediately upon the attack upon the Massachusetts volunteers in Baltimore, April 19, 1861, he was ordered by General Scott to go to Annapolis and attend to forwarding the New York and Massachusetts troops expected by that route. He succeeded by great adroitness in getting through the hostile country, and, finding no troops yet arrived, returned with communications from Governor Hicks to Washington. On the 22d of April he again set out for Annapolis, and after various adventures was successful in reaching that city in time to make all the necessary arrangements for forwarding the Seventh New York, General Butler's Massachusetts, and the Pennsylvania regiment, the first troops which arrived for the defence of the capital. For this service he received the high commendation of General Scott. Throughout the entire war Major Miller remained in the Quartermaster's Department at Washington, and in the course of four years there passed through his hands about \$20,000,000, and upon the examination of his accounts it was found that less than \$20 was to be disallowed, in the words of the Auditor, "being the only case of the kind within the knowledge of this office."

General Miller was married in 1841 to Jane Octavia, daughter of Major-General Macomb, who survives him. He leaves one son, Lieutenant A. Macomb Miller, and four daughters, the eldest the wife of General Wheaton, U. S. Army.

THE Secretary of War has decided relative to the responsibility of officers of the Army for public property, and the action of boards of survey, to the effect that an officer who turns over stores to another for transportation in the best condition in which it is possible for him to put said stores is relieved from any further responsibility concerning them by the receipt of the officer to whom they are intrusted for transportation. Should the officer to whom the stores are consigned discover in them damage or deficiency, such as is described by the General Regulations, he will apply for a board of survey, whose members shall be sworn to an impartial discharge of their duty, and before which all concerned shall be heard in person or by letter. The board shall ascertain and determine the amount and condition of stores actually delivered to the receiving officer, who shall receipt to the officer intrusted with their transportation for the amount and quality so determined. The latter officer shall be held responsible for all damage or deficiency, unless relieved therefrom by the report of the board of survey, duly approved by the reviewing authority.

THE U. S. steamship *Alaska*, Captain H. C. Blake, is at anchor off the Battery, New York, ready to take in her powder and loaded shells, previous to sailing for the East Indies. The U. S. steamer *Congress* will sail in a few days from Philadelphia, on a trial trip.

GENERAL Mott, General Sibley, late in the rebel service, and other American officers are in the service of the Pasha of Egypt.

THE resignation of Brevet Major-General Daniel Butterfield, unattached, has been accepted by the President, to take effect March 14, 1870.

BREVET Major-General James W. Ripley, brigadier-general U. S. A., retired, died at his residence in Hartford, Conn., on Tuesday night.

THE House Committee on Naval Affairs have agreed to report a bill allowing the sum of \$100,000 as prize money to the officers and crew of the *Wyoming* for their action with three Japanese vessels in the Straits of Simonoseki in July, 1863, the amount to be paid out of the \$650,000 paid by the Japanese Government as indemnity to the United States for the hostile acts of the vessels. The committee report that the claim was not a legal one, for the vessels were not captured, but they think it equitable that the gallant conduct of the *Wyoming* should be recognized, inasmuch as it suppressed formidable hostilities to our commerce, and contributed to secure the large indemnity paid by Japan.

THE NAVY.

The Editor invites for this Department of the JOURNAL all facts of interest to the Navy, especially such as relate to the movements of officers or vessels.

VARIOUS NAVAL MATTERS.

ORDERS have been issued by the Navy Department to prepare the second-rate screw steamer *Brooklyn*, twenty guns, at Philadelphia, and the second-rate screw steamer *Worcester* (late *Manitou*), thirteen guns, now at Boston, to be fitted immediately for sea. The fourth-rate vessel *Palos*, which is being prepared for sea at Boston, will join the Asiatic fleet, taking the route through the Suez Canal.

LIEUTENANT-COMMANDER Charles L. Franklin, of the iron-clad *Saugus*, informs the Navy Department that he arrived in Havana harbor on the 27th of February, in tow of the U. S. steamer *Bibb*, and was received with the usual courtesies by the Spanish authorities. The English and French officers in the harbor also received the *Saugus* with the usual courtesies.

DESPATCHES from Rear-Admiral Radford, dated Genoa, Italy, February 17, 1870, report: The flagship *Franklin* arrived at Genoa on the 16th from Villa Franca; the *Richmond* left Barcelona, Spain, on the 4th of January, and arrived at Lisbon on the 20th, having touched at Gibraltar; the *Juniata* left Marseilles on the 26th of January, and arrived at Villa Franca, February 1; the storeship *Supply* arrived at Spezia on the 13th of February, forty-nine days out from Boston.

LIEUTENANT-COMMANDER William L. Stewart, the executive officer of the *Onesida*, who went down with the vessel, was one of the most accomplished officers in the service. Captain George H. Preble, U. S. Navy, in speaking of him, says: "I knew Mr. Stewart well. He was the executive officer of the *St. Louis* under my command for more than two years, and I can truthfully bear witness that there was not a braver or more gentlemanly and correct officer in the service. He was one of the coolest and most self-possessed of men in times of difficulty, danger, and excitement."

THE steam sloop of war *Wachusett* will be the next vessel placed in commission at the Brooklyn Navy-yard. The steam sloop of war *Shenandoah* is fitting out for sea at the Charlestown (Mass.) Navy-yard. The steam frigate *Colorado*, which has been in commission at this station since January 15, is taking on board a spare crank and other machinery, which will detain her for two or three weeks longer. She is a beautiful vessel, and attracts the attention and admiration of all visitors to the yard, where she now lies moored to the dock near the foot of the roadway leading from the York street gate.

MR. ALBERT DEGROOT, captain in the mercantile marine, writes to us proposing that sea captains "recognize, in a suitable and marked manner, the sublime devotion" of Commander Williams of the *Onesida*. He suggests "that a meeting of sea captains be at once called, to assemble in some appropriate place, to demonstrate their admiration of the conduct that has given new lustre to their calling and has dignified human nature, and to urge upon Government the propriety of erecting a suitable monument to Captain Williams at Annapolis, where the young men who are to officer our ships hereafter would see it, and be continually reminded by it of the requirements of an officer's post in times of great peril, and of the unfading honor that will ever attach to their faithful fulfillment."

THE naval appropriation bill, reported from the Committee on Appropriations by Mr. Washburn of Wisconsin, proposes a total appropriation of \$16,641,855. The amounts for the several navy-yards proper are as follows:

Portsmouth, N. H.	\$13,400
New York	14,400
Washington	13,900
Pensacola	4,978
Boston	15,339
Philadelphia	13,900
Norfolk	10,900
Mare Island, Cal.	15,475
For the Naval Asylum	6,142
Bureau of Docks and Yards	800,000
Bureau of Equipment and Recruiting	1,500,000
Civil establishment at navy-yards	33,680
Contingent expenses of the Bureau of Equipment and Repairs	125,000
Bureau of Navigation	149,500
Expenses of the Nautical Almanac	20,000
Expenses of the Naval Observatory	31,800
Contingent expenses of the Bureau of Navigation	6,000
Bureau of Ordnance	389,000
Bureau of Construction and Repairs	3,530,000
Civil establishments of the several yards	65,500
Bureau of Steam Engineering, civil establishments of the several yards	39,400
Bureau of Provisions and Clothing	781,000
Civil establishments at the several yards	34,165
Naval Asylum at Philadelphia	1,000
Contingent fund	75,000
Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, support of surgeons, etc.	31,000
Annapolis and Mare Island Hospitals	40,000
Civil establishments at the several yards	50,000
For the Naval Academy	183,786
For the Marine Corps	1,025,627

DESPATCHES have been received at the Navy Department from Rear-Admiral Poor, commanding the North Atlantic fleet, dated at Cape Haytien, Feb. 13. Admiral Poor has called upon the Provisional President, and after the usual interchange of civilities, acquainted him with the object of his visit to that port. The President summoned his Cabinet, and the Admiral explained the instructions he had received from his Government—namely, that negotiations were pending between the

United States and San Domingo, and that while they were pending, the Government had determined with its whole power to prevent any interference on the part of the Haytian or any other government with that of the Dominicans; and if any attempt should be made upon the Dominicans during the negotiations under the Haytian or any other flag, it would be regarded as an act of hostility to the United States flag, and would provoke hostility in return. The President and the Secretary of State expressed the hope that friendly relations now existing between Hayti and the United States would not be interrupted, and that while they were aware of their weakness they knew their rights and would maintain them to the best of their ability, and they must be allowed to be the judges of their own policy. Admiral Poor afterwards learned, unofficially, that the authorities were displeased with what they considered a menace on the part of the United States Government accompanied by force.

NAVY GAZETTE.

REGULAR NAVAL SERVICE.

ORDERED.

MARCH 9.—Lieutenant Thomas Nelson, to Washington for examination for promotion.
First Assistant Engineers Jefferson Young, Benjamin O. Hampton, John Purdy, Jr., Henry L. Snyder, and S. L. F. Ayres, to Philadelphia for examination for promotion.
MARCH 10.—Lieutenant Edward S. Keyser, to the receiving ship *Vandalia*.
Ensign James K. Cogswell, to duty in the North Pacific Squadron of the Pacific Fleet.
Ensign Francis H. Delano, to signal duty at Washington.
Boatswain Philip J. Miller, to duty at the Navy-yard, Norfolk.
MARCH 11.—Lieutenant-Commander Benjamin F. Day, to the *Alaska*.
Passed Assistant Surgeon William H. Jones, to the Navy-yard, Washington.
MARCH 12.—Lieutenant-Commander George W. Armentrout, to the *Nyack*.
Paymaster Henry Etting, to duty at the Naval Asylum, Philadelphia, on the 1st of April next, relieving Paymaster George Cochran of that portion of his present duties.
MARCH 14.—Chaplain William H. Stewart, to the Naval Station, Mound City, Ill.

DETACHED.

MARCH 9.—Ensign J. D. J. Kelly, from signal duty at Washington, and ordered to duty in the Pacific Fleet.
MARCH 10.—Master Joseph E. Jones, from the *Tullapoosea*, and ordered to duty at the ordinary, Navy-yard, Boston.
Surgeon George W. Woods, from the receiving ship *Independence*, and ordered to the *Jamestown*.
MARCH 11.—Assistant Surgeon Hampden Aulick, from the Navy-yard, Washington, and ordered to the *Miantonomoh*.
MARCH 12.—Lieutenant-Commander Edward E. Preble, from the *Nyack*, and ordered home.
Ensign John O. Irvine, from signal duty at Washington, D. C., and ordered to duty in the North Pacific Squadron of the Pacific Fleet.
Passed Assistant Surgeon Frank L. Du Bois, from the Naval Hospital, Chelsea, Mass., and ordered to the receiving ship *Independence* on the 10th of April next.

ORDERS REVOKED.

MARCH 11.—The orders of Lieutenant-Commander Henry F. Pickling, to the *Alaska*, and he remains on board the *Colorado*.

(LIST OF DEATHS.)

In the Navy of the United States, which have been reported to the Chief of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery for the week ending March 12, 1870:

John J. Gibson, surgeon, February 19, U. S. steamer *Seminole*, Key West.
Henry Lowden, beneficiary, March 7, Naval Asylum, Philadelphia.

List of enlisted men missing belonging to the late U. S. steamer *Onesida* (3d rate), Commander E. P. Williams, commanding.

Allen, Wallace W., ordinary seaman.
Byrton, William, signal quartermaster.
Botsford, Anthony, paymaster's writer.
Boston, Richard (colored), landsman.
Barnes, Hugh, first-class fireman.
Boyle, John, coal-heaver.
Boyle, James, private marine.
Burns, Francis H., corporal.
Biles, Joseph, landsman.
Buster, William H., landsman.
Brown, John, seaman.
Baptist, Benjamin (colored), landsman.
Blunt, Miles, ordinary seaman.
Burr, James (apprentice), landsman.
Clark, James L., yeoman.
Crownan, Denis, coal-heaver.
Carey, James, coal-heaver.
Cannon, James, first-class fireman.
Cannon, John, second-class boy.
Cooper, John, seaman.
Clark, William, quartermaster.
Chalmers, George, private marine.
Dale, John, master-at-arms.
Donnelly, Hugh, first-class fireman.
Deckert, Ernest, private marine.
Dolphin, William D., private marine.
Ferguson, James, carpenter's mate.
Fox, Henry, seaman.
Fitzpatrick, Edward, apprentice boy.
Farrell, William, captain forecabin.
Fallon, Thomas, ordinary seaman.
Henrick, Charles, coal-heaver.
Hassingburgh, William, coal-heaver.
Hill, John, first-class fireman.
Hawkins, James, second-class fireman.
Hayden, Frank, seaman.
Jeffreys, Joseph, first-class boy.
Jevins, John E., boatswain's mate.
Johnson, Robert, second-class boy.
Jenson, Charles, seaman.
Jacobson, Israel, ship's writer.
Keating, Thomas, ordinary seaman.
Kuhn, George, cooper.
Lewis, William C. (colored), landsman.
Langman, George, guard master.
Lynch, Matthew, seaman.
Lyons, Sheldon U., ordinary seaman.
Lavelle, Patrick, coal-heaver.
McGlincy, James, second-class fireman.
Murphy, John, second-class fireman.
Murphy, Albert, coal-heaver.
Mooney, Hugh, second-class fireman.
Mooney, William, second-class fireman.
McCluskey, John, coal-heaver.
McTillin, James (apprentice), ordinary seaman.
Murphy, Hugh, apothecary.
Moran, John, quartermaster.
Mooney, John D., armorer.
Morgan, John, landsman.
Miller, Charles, ordinary seaman.
Mahoney, Jeremiah, seaman.
McEwen, William, second-class boy.
McGrade, Patrick, ordinary seaman.
Manby, Cornelius, landsman.
O'Brien, James, ordinary seaman.
Olsen, Christian, seaman.
Pomeroy, William, landsman.

Pettigrew, John, coal-heaver.
 Price, John R., first-class fireman.
 Reddy, Thomas, first-class fireman.
 Ricketts, William, sailmaker's mate.
 Schooning, Charles, coxswain.
 Senter, John B., landsman.
 Sider, David, landsman.
 Sturges, Louis, private marine.
 Stone, George A., private marine.
 Stanley, James, captain fore-castle.
 Staunton, Thomas, second-class fireman.
 Shorter, John (colored), landsman.
 Thompson, John, coal-heaver.
 Townsend, David, landsman.
 Walters, George A., ordnance sergeant.
 Wooley, Thomas, quartermaster.
 Wren, Charles, ward-room cook.
 White, William (colored), warrant officers' steward.
 White, Thomas, landsman.
 Ning Chong (Chinaman), captain's cook.
 Ah Yung (Chinaman), ward-room boy.
 Ah Low (Chinaman), ward-room boy.
 Ah Yong (Chinaman), ward-room boy.
 Ah Long (Chinaman), ward-room boy.
 Ah Sing (Chinaman), steering boy.
 Ah Tong (Chinaman), stowage steward.
 Ah Sung (Chinaman), engineer's steward.
 Name not known, engineer's boy.

THE ONEIDA DISASTER.

LETTER OF W. W. CROWNINSHIELD.

THE Boston Transcript of the 10th instant publishes extracts from a letter written to his sister by Mr. W. W. Crowninshield, the clerk of Captain Williams of the United States steamer *Oneida*. The letter gives a graphic account of his own escape and the brief last moments on board previous to the waters closing over the noble ship for ever. Mr. Crowninshield says:

The *Oneida* is no more; but thank Heaven I am one of the survivors of an awful catastrophe.

My escape was almost miraculous. At the time of the collision I was asleep in the cabin, on the transom, at about ten minutes to seven in the evening. The steamer struck us near the fore part of the cabin. I found myself on the floor, just coming to from being stunned, and on opening my eyes I saw the whole stern was cut off and all exposed to the starlight. I had sense enough to climb out of the stern over to the spar deck, and to look down into the cabin to see if Captain Williams was there, but could not see him. I seized a cap within reach and put it on with the strap under my chin. I had on a thick suit, overcoat and boots. I went to the quarter deck, met Paymaster Tullock, and inquired how the disaster happened. I met Captain Williams and told him how serious the damage was. He was going on the bridge. I spoke to one or two more officers, and finding the ship was sinking I went into the main rigging, and in five minutes our good ship commenced to sink rapidly. I was ten feet above the rail. When she had sunk so far as to have the water reach me, I pushed myself as far away from the ship as I could, but the vortex carried me down, and it was a long time ere I came to the surface. When I did, I saw nothing of the ship, but many heads above water. I saw one of our boats near by, and had just strength enough to reach her. I was pulled on board exhausted, and found Mr. Yates with thirty-seven of the crew on board. We steered for the nearest land, four miles away as well as I could judge. I was nearly frozen and soon had a chill, but after a while we came near the beach and made a landing in the surf, where I was just able to get ashore, being very stiff with the cold. We reached a Japanese village and found shelter and rest for the night, twenty-eight miles from Yokohama.

My heart is too full to tell you more of myself, although all I had went down in the ship. Captain Williams acted as bravely as he always has done. He would not leave his post on the bridge, although he was almost pulled away, and when urged by Mr. Yates, replied, "I go down with my ship." A petty officer urging him to go, he grasped the iron rail and said, "No, this is my place, and here I remain." God bless him. The country and the world have lost a noble officer, who died rather than leave what he considered his post of duty. This heroic conduct was followed by every officer and man on board the ship; not a soul who had a station left it, but faced death in such a manner that makes me feel proud we were Americans, and were it not for you all at home, I could wish I was locked in their arms. Through all that I have passed during my life nothing has made such an impression upon me. I can see each and every face of those who have gone, and they all loved each other so much. They were proud of their country and took such interest in its prosperity. In that devoted band there were many thoughts, but only one heart.

The *Oneida* was the favorite ship of the station. Could you see what the popular feeling was here from every one, you would think that all loved the ship and her officers better than I did. We left the port under the most favorable auspices, the ship homeward bound. All the men-of-war cheered us, the merchant ships dipped their flags, telling us of their good wishes for a safe and pleasant passage home. But in one hour we were facing death as only Americans can do, for not a murmur, not a cry was heard when the good ship *Oneida* (which had done her duty through the war) was sinking, and every one knew that meant death. Through all my experience during the war, I saw nothing to compare with it. But I cannot write more—my heart is too full. Shall I ever get over it? Is what I ask myself.

JANUARY 29.—Nothing has been heard from the ship or of the crew; no doubt the rest have gone down to the depths of the sea. Some pieces of the wreck have been seen along the shore, and among them an empty trunk of mine, which was stowed away. Boats have been looking out, and are still doing so, for any bodies which may come to the surface. The captain of the *Bombay* is having an investigation, both as regards the collision and his conduct in leaving us. It will go hard with him, for had he stopped and lowered his boats he could have saved nearly all on board. Our Minister is conducting the case on behalf of the living and the dead, and the evidence is strong against the British.

JANUARY 31.—The investigation drags slowly along. Last evening they found the ship, and have marked the spot. The ends of the masts are visible some foot or two at low water. No bodies have been found yet; but it is hardly time for any to appear, the water and weather being so cold. In a day or two we shall have the melancholy duty of identifying them, as all Japanese fishermen have orders, under penalty of death, to bring all effects saved to Yokohama. The result of the investigation will not be known for a week—which news you shall have by the first steamer.

LETTER OF CONSUL SHEPHERD.

The following letter, detailing the loss of the United States steamer *Oneida* and the gallant souls who commanded and sailed her, has been received by Mr. Andrew Stewart of Uniontown, Pa. How bravely Lieutenant-Commander Stewart met his death is feelingly told by the writer:

ON BOARD THE AROOSTOOK, BAY OF YEDDO, JAPAN, January 30, 1870.

Mr. Andrew Stewart.

MY DEAR SIR: A sad, sad duty is mine. My heart aches and my pen almost refuses to write words that will rend your heart and carry mourning to your household. Your son, Lieutenant-Commander William F. Stewart, went down with his ship, the *Oneida*, and nineteen comrades, off Kanansaki Point, on the night of January 24. The particulars of this terrible disaster, which has sent mourning to so many households, I will not detail to you, for by the time this reaches you the papers will make them known, and publish to the world the inhuman, brutal desertion of the *Oneida* by Captain Eyre, of the Pacific and Oriental Mail steamer *Bombay*. At the time the *Bombay* struck the *Oneida* the officers were at dinner in the ward-room (half past six P. M.) All rushed on deck and took their several positions. From the bridge Lieutenant-Commander Stewart hailed the *Bombay* saying, "Ship ahoy! stand by us; you've cut us down!" But the *Bombay* kept on and made no reply. Again he cried, "For God's sake stand by; you have cut us in two!" But no answer, and on the *Bombay* went. Your son and one of the midshipmen (Adams) loaded and fired three guns; the engineer turned on the whistle, all of which the captain of the *Bombay* says he did not hear, and did not even stop to see what damage he had done, which, had he done, all or nearly all might have been saved. Twenty miles away, at Yokohama, the guns were distinctly heard, and still this brute of a captain—not more than a mile away—says he did not hear them, or see the flash.

The *Oneida* had but three boats, one of which was cut in two by the collision and the other two were filled with men, the officers refusing to take to them. The officer of the deck, J. J. Yates, who is saved, says he tried to get the Captain (Williams) and your son to get into one of the boats, but they both refused, the captain saying:

"No, I'll go down with the ship."

And your son replying:

"My duty is here, not in the boat."

Nothing could have been more heroic. As he went down he said, "My God! this is the way we must die." He was last seen in the water swimming for one of the boats. Never was heroism more heroic—never bravery more brave. The Minister (Mr. De Long) and myself breakfasted with them all on board at one o'clock P. M. of that day, and your son expressed himself as dreading for some reason to go to sea. He had gotten leave to go home from Hong Kong by Pacific Mail steamship, via San Francisco, and rather expected the Admiral would send up his relief to Yokohama; but as he did not, he was going to Hong Kong with the *Oneida* and return by Pacific Mail.

The Minister has chartered the late gunboat *Aroostook*, and we are doing all in our power to secure the bodies and property, and rest assured that as tenderly and earnestly will they be cared for and forwarded as it is possible for them to be. For any inquiries in regard to or requests in relation to this sad, sad affair, or for anything, command me at any time. My sympathy and tears mingle with yours, and may He who holds us all as in the hollow of His hand comfort and uphold you. Yours truly, sympathizingly, tenderly,

C. O. SHEPHERD,

United States Consul, Yeddo, Japan.

A JAPAN ACCOUNT.

The following account of the collision between the *Oneida* and the *Bombay* is from the *Japan Mail*, an English paper published at Yokohama:

It is with profound sorrow that we have to report the total loss of the United States steamer *Oneida*, in Mississippi Bay, on the evening of Monday, the 24th instant, after being in collision with the Peninsular and Oriental Company's steamer *Bombay*, carrying the English mails to Yokohama. She had a crew of two hundred and three officers and men, out of which only sixty-three survive.

A naval court of inquiry is now sitting to examine into the circumstances which produced and which followed the accident, and all discussion upon the causes which made the disaster so fatal must be withheld until the proceedings of the court are closed.

It is essential that this should be borne in mind to justify us for the bare outline of the event which it is our duty to give, and for withholding all comment upon a case which has naturally excited public feeling very intensely and in somewhat different directions. But whatever may be the result of the inquiry, wherever blame may eventually fall and rest, one feeling of profound sorrow pervades the residents of all nationalities, and to this feeling every other is subordinate.

The circumstances in their barest form are as follows: The *Oneida* left the harbor of Yokohama at 4 o'clock in the afternoon of Monday, the 24th instant, and had reached a point to the northward of Kanansaki light house, which was distant about two miles, and bore S. E., at about a quarter to seven, when a steamer was

sighted on the starboard bow. She was then running with a fresh breeze under sail and steam, at the rate of twelve or thirteen knots. As the two vessels were going in opposite directions at full speed, they approached each other rapidly, and within a few minutes came into collision, the starboard bow of the *Bombay* striking the starboard beam of the *Oneida*, and staving in her quarter down to the lower deck.

The whistle of the *Bombay* had been used and the engines stopped, and when it was seen that a collision was inevitable, her helm was put hard a-starboard, to convert as much as possible into a graze, a shock which must otherwise have been far more fatal in its immediate effect. But the damage done to the American steamer was vital. In less than a quarter of an hour she went down in deep water; her officers, with an unsurpassed heroism, remaining at their posts and giving directions for the saving of the crew in the insufficient number of boats which a wretched economy had reduced them to. At intervals between the collision and the sinking of the vessel, four or five guns were fired to make known their distress, the last at the moment when the muzzle of the piece was at the water's edge. The stern part of the vessel, in which the rockets were kept, had been carried away, and the guns alone could be used to appeal to the *Bombay* for assistance.

But they were fired in vain; no sound of them reached the English steamer, as far as is at present known, and a noble ship, gallantly manned and officered by gentlemen who, in those last few last moments of their lives, raised to themselves an imperishable monument of fame, sank forever. Nothing more touching can be conceived than the picture of that devoted vessel firing at intervals as the water gained on her, while the only care of the band of heroes in whose guardianship she was placed was to save the lives of their men and die at their posts. History has no more noble deeds than these, and if America is plunged in grief at the loss of some of her bravest sons, she may derive consolation from the lines which record with profound sorrow and admiration how nobly they died.

Meanwhile the English steamer proceeded on her way, certain that if assistance was required a rocket would be sent up. She was more or less damaged, and was making water fast in her fore compartment. The captain pushed forward to Yokohama, and arrived there at 8 P. M. He incidentally mentioned that he had been in collision with a vessel outside, but was evidently unaware of its gravity. Before morning, however, one of the two boats' crews which had got away from the *Oneida* had reached Yokohama, and the news of the disaster was communicated to the senior British naval officer, the American Minister, and some few of the residents. There were circumstances connected with it calculated to produce great excitement, and it must not be wondered at that at such a moment strong feelings found expression. But, as they gradually calmed, the stronger Anglo-Saxon sense of justice prevailed, and the wish to learn what could be said on the other side was paramount.

Meanwhile, all are loud in praise of the sympathy and energy shown by Captain Stanhope of H. M. S. *Ocean*, and the anxiety of all nationalities to afford every possible assistance in this terrible emergency.

This appalling calamity naturally occupies the attention of every one, to the exclusion almost of every other consideration.

THE RIGHT OF WAY.

Mr. George W. Blunt has addressed the following to the New York Evening Post:

I did not intend to say a word on this sad disaster to the *Oneida* until the full testimony in relation to it had been taken; but two articles which appeared in the *Evening Post*, charging a want of discipline to our officers, who can only speak in their justification before the bar of Omnipotence, have changed my intention. The fact that every deck officer went down with the ship, and that Captain Williams refused to leave her when going down, is a sufficient refutation of the articles in the *Evening Post*.

I have endeavored, with the large chart of Yeddo Bay before me, to locate the position of the two vessels when they first saw each other, and have come to the conclusion that the *Bombay* came into collision with the *Oneida* by not keeping her course, but following the rule blindly of putting the helm to port.

The *Oneida* had the right of way, as she was under canvas, and it was the business of the *Bombay* to get out of her way.

A similar instance of stupidity took place off this harbor in December, 1868. The steamer *Scotland*, bound to Great Britain, off Fire Island saw a ship near two miles south of her. Instead of the steamer keeping on her course, the helm was put hard a-port, swinging her off eight points from her course, and she ran into the *Kate Dwyer*, sinking her, with the loss of thirteen persons. The *Scotland* was so damaged that she returned, but sank on the bar at Sandy Hook.

Of the brutality of Arthur Wellesley Eyre in not stopping his steamer to see what damage he had done, and of his falsehood in stating that he struck a ship with the frame-work of the *Oneida* without feeling it, it is not necessary for me to speak. What I wish to say is, that I think great wrong has been done to our men under the wave who died at their posts.

G. W. B.

ENSIGN CHARLES A. COPP.

Ensign Charles A. Copp, who was lost on the *Oneida*, was of the bravest and best of the gallant fellows who went down with their ship. From a newsboy he rose to the position of trust which he held through his own endeavors. He was born in Troy on July 25, 1847, and came from an old and respected New Hampshire family. A stubborn will and great physical force, well tempered by a kindly disposition, made him a leader among his companions from boyhood. He sold papers for some time when a boy, during the hours after school, and putting his earnings in a bank, managed after a while to

get together a liberal number of dollars for a "rainy day." Though constantly with the roughest newboys, he retained a remarkable purity of character; he never in his life resorted to alcoholic stimulants or used tobacco in any form. At fourteen he was admitted to the Troy High School from the grammar department, but, preferring an active life, he remained there only a year. He next came to New York and began work as a clerk. Having a love for the sea and a desire to get into the service, he entered the United States Navy in September, 1863, as an enlisted boy. Through some mistake he was transferred to the wrong vessel, but making the best of it he passed a year on the blockade, participating in the siege of Charleston and acquiring a practical knowledge of modern naval warfare.

An appointment to the Academy was sent him while on the *Monadnock*, which he was inclined to refuse, fearing he was too rusty in his studies to pass the required examination. His officers, who admired his manly ways and seamanlike qualities, urged him to accept, and one of them, Lieutenant-Commander Joseph N. Miller, whom he often mentioned gratefully, threatened, if he refused, to reduce him from a petty officer to which he had been promoted. He was complimented at Newport on his examination in mathematics, and immediately on entering the school became champion for his younger and weaker fellow "plebes" in their usual encounters with upper classmen. He was one of the movers in an organized defence, and for some time was president of his class. During his course he studied just enough to pass the several examinations, giving his attention to the practical branches, and excelling in all manly sports. He was a leading member of the ball and boat clubs, was a splendid swordsman, and the best boxer at the Academy. He graduated with his class in June, 1868, and in October following was ordered to report to Admiral Rowan of the Asiatic Squadron. He served in the flagship *Delaware* until October, 1869, when he was transferred to the *Idaho*, and came near death when that vessel was caught by a typhoon and broken almost in two. He was on his way home for examination for promotion, when Captain Arthur W. Eyre, of the *Bombay*, so cruelly put an end to his brief career.

Report speaks well of young Copp as an officer. His magnificent physique gave him a commanding presence, and his noble bearing won him the respect of all with whom he came in contact. He had rare executive ability, and a tone of command that caused his every order to be instantly obeyed. He was a genial companion, a sympathetic friend, and a loving, devoted son and brother. After the collision, when every man's thoughts were naturally on personal safety, his solicitude for the sick was worthy of his warm, generous heart. Seeing all the invalid seamen safely on board the cutter, he went below to his station. A comrade called to him to come up, as the ship was sinking. He replied, "No; I cannot until relieved!" Scarcely had he spoken those noble words when the *Onida* sank beneath the waves. Thus perished as brave an officer as ever honored any navy, and his name, with his captain's, E. P. Williams, is added to the list of heroic men who died rather than leave the post of duty.

EXERCISES ON BOARD THE FRANKLIN.

The following is the time table of exercises on board the U. S. steamer *Franklin* (first rate), European Squadron, during the quarter ending December 31, 1869, submitted by Lieutenant-Commander F. V. McNair, executive officer, approved by Captain C. R. P. Rodgers, commanding *Franklin*, and forwarded to the Navy Department:

EXERCISES ALOFT (with spars).—These exercises have been performed without employing "Ready, men," no preparatory work being done. When two or more of these exercises were performed together, the interval noted shows the completion of the last movement of the final evolution. Interval noted:

FOR LOWER YARDS.—Yards on the rail; time from calling all hands until yards were slung, trussed to and squared by the braces; or from yards secured for a full due to time of landing them on the rail.

FOR TOPGALLANT AND ROYAL YARDS.—Yards secured in lower rigging; time marked from "Lay aloft," "Sway out of the chains," to yards across and squared by braces; or in sending down, from "Lay aloft" to yards in the rigging.

FOR TOPGALLANT MASTS.—Masts on end; time from lay aloft (masts started at same instant) to masts fidded and backstays set up; or from "Lay aloft" to masts down, heels landed on deck.

Exercise Topgallant Yards.—Only a few of the times are noted in the log of this exercise. During the last month the times have been from 1 m. to 2 m. 30 s. Down—Nov. 6, 2 m.; Nov. 14, 2 m.; Nov. 15, 1 m. 30 s.; Dec. 19, 2 m. 30 s.; Dec. 20, 1 m. 50 s. Up—Oct. 23, 1 m. 25 s.; Nov. 8, 55 s.; Nov. 14, 2 m.; Nov. 15, 2 m.; Dec. 14, 1 m. 20 s.; Dec. 19, 2 m. 30 s.; Dec. 20, 2 m. 30 s.; Dec. 21, 1 m. 50 s.

Exercise Topgallant and Royal Yards.—Down—Oct. 7, 2 m.; Oct. 8, 1 m. 50 s.; Oct. 11, 1 m. 40 s.; Nov. 10, 1 m. 50 s. Up—Oct. 9, 2 m. 30 s.; Nov. 1, 1 m. 30 s.; Nov. 10, 2 m.; Nov. 12, 2 m. 30 s.

Exercise Topgallant Masts.—Down—Nov. 3, 1 m. 30 s.; Nov. 3, 1 m. 50 s.; Nov. 5, 2 m.; Nov. 21, 3 m. Oct. 28, at 3.45 A. M., blowing a heavy gale, men in hammocks, sent topgallant masts down and pointed yards; from sounding call to piping down, evolution completed, 11 m. Up—Oct. 26, 1 m. 15 s.; Nov. 12, 1 m. 40 s.; Nov. 23, 2 m.; Dec. 4, 3 m.

Exercise Topgallant Masts and Topgallant and Royal Yards.—Down—Nov. 4, 2 m.; Nov. 10, 2 m. 50 s. Up—Oct. 22, 2 m. 20 s.; Nov. 3, 3 m. 40 s.; Nov. 4, 2 m. 50 s.; Nov. 6, 2 m. 20 s.; Dec. 15, 3 m.

Exercise Lower Yards and Topgallant Masts.—Down—Oct. 11, 4 m. Up—Sept. 23 (topgallant and royal yards also), 23 m.; Oct. 12, 7 m. 30 s.; Oct. 19, 13 m.

Exercise with Sails (Topsails and Courses).—Time from "Lay aloft" to "Lay down from aloft," unless otherwise noted. Sept. 24, shifted topsails—Fore, 5 m. 5 s.; main, 4 m. 25 s.; mizzen, 4 m. 5 s. Shifted courses—foresail, 4 m. 25 s.; mainsail, 3 m. 45 s. Sept. 24, unbent sails, 2 m. 30 s.; Nov. 10, unbent sails, 4 m.; Nov. 12, unbent sails and sent down royal and topgallant yards, 4 m. 30 s.; October 14, bent sails and furlled (from sail-room), 16 m.; Nov. 1, bent sails (from sail-room), 12 m. 30 s.; Nov. 10, bent sails, 9 m.; Nov. 10, bent sails and furlled (sails on deck), 4 m.; Nov. 30, bent sails (from sail-room), 20 m.; Oct. 7, loosed sail to a bowline, 1 m. 30 s.; Nov. 27, loosed sail to a bowline, 1 m. 20 s.; Oct. 7, furlled sail from a bowline, 2 m. 30 s.; Oct. 11, furlled sail from a bowline (and unbent), 5 m.; Nov. 2, furlled sail from a bowline, 2 m. 10 s.; Nov. 26, furlled sail from a bowline, 3 m.; Nov. 27, furlled sail from a bowline (and unbent), 4 m.

Exercise with all plain Sail (Royals and Courses).—Nov. 10, loosed and made sail to royals and courses, 4 m.; Nov. 12, loosed and made sail to royals and courses, 4 m.; Oct. 26, shortened and furlled sails, 4 m. 50 s.; Nov. 12, took in and furlled sails, 4 m. 50 s.; Oct. 11, crossed topgallant and royal yards and loosed sails, 2 m.; Oct. 26, crossed topgallant yards and loosed sails, 1 m. 40 s.; Nov. 2, crossed topgallant and royal yards and loosed sails, 2 m. 15 s.

General Quarters.—Battery secure, all implements, accoutrements, and ammunition in position of battery secured; the time marked shows the interval required to place the several divisions in a state of complete preparation for battle:

Division.	Composition.	Oct. 11.	Nov. 1.	Nov. 8.	Nov. 15.	Nov. 20.
First.....	3 9-in. guns.	2 45	1 20	2 15	2 15	1 40
Second.....	" "	3 35	2 25	2 25	2 25	1 10
Third.....	6 9-in. "	3 25	1 25	2 45	2 45	1 20
Fourth.....	" "	1 45	1 00	2 40	2 40	1 30
Fifth.....	1 11-in. pivot and 4 100-lb. rls.	2 20	1 05	1 25	1 25	1 20
Sixth.....	6 9-in. guns.	2 00	1 50	1 40	1 30	1 20
Navies'rs.	" "	7 15	3 00	3 40	3 40	4 00
Engineers.	" "	2 15	2 15	2 45	2 45	2 00
Marine's.	" "	0 45	0 45	1 50	0 50
Powder.	" "	2 45	1 20	1 50	1 55	1 30

Nov. 3—11-inch, shifted pivot from fire to fire in 50 seconds.

Fire Quarters.—The interval noted is from first tap of the bell to entire readiness for playing nine streams on fire, and to preparation of tritac for hoisting out launches. Nov. 4, fire in fore hold, 1 m. 40 s.; Dec. 12, fire in general store-room—hose, 1 m. 30 s.; stays, 2 m. 30 s.

Boats.—Arming—Time noted from call "Arm and equip," to shoving off to form line ahead on the ship's beam; the boats being fully provided as required by Ordnance Instructions, articles 6 to 8 inclusive, part II. Hoisting out—Time required to make all preparations, hoist out and land in water.

Arming, Boats riding at the Booms.

Date.	Gig.	Reserve.	1st Cutter.	1st Whale Boat.	2d Cutter.	2d Whale Boat.	Steam Launch.	3d Cutter.	3d Whale Boat.
Oct. 12.	Time m. s.	Time m. s.	Time m. s.	Time m. s.	Time m. s.	Time m. s.	Time m. s.	Time m. s.	Time m. s.
" 13.	4 00	4 00	4 30	5 00	5 00	5 00	5 30	5 30	5 30
" 14.	1 20	2 30	1 50	3 30	3 30	3 30	3 40	3 30	8 30

Hoisting Out.—Oct. 11, made all preparations, steam launch in water, 7 m. 30 s.; Oct. 11, made all preparations, second launch in water, 8 m.

TO REDUCE THE NAVY.

On the 11th, Mr. Spencer introduced in the Senate the following bill to reduce the naval establishment of the United States:

SEC. 1. That the grades of officers of admiral and vice-admiral in the Navy shall continue until vacancies shall occur in them, when they shall be and remain abolished.

SEC. 2. That from and after the passage of this act, there shall be no promotions to the grade of rear-admiral in the Navy until the number of officers in that grade shall be reduced below six, which shall be the number fixed by law; and vacancies in the grade of rear-admiral shall hereafter be filled by the President of the United States by selection from the grade next below: *Provided*, That no officer shall be so advanced until he shall have served for at least five years in command afloat, in the grades of commander and captain, unless for distinguished service, for which he shall have received the thanks of Congress.

SEC. 3. That the number of officers in the grades of commodore, captain, commander, and lieutenant-commander in the Navy shall hereafter be as follows, namely: Twelve commodores, forty captains, seventy-five commanders, and one hundred lieutenant-commanders; and no promotions shall be made into these grades until the number therein shall be reduced as hereby provided.

SEC. 4. That the number of officers in the grades of lieutenant, master, and ensign in the Navy, shall be as follows, viz.: Two hundred lieutenants, one hundred masters, and one hundred ensigns: *Provided*, That no officer shall be deprived of his commission by the operation of this act; but that no vacancy which may occur in any of the above named grades shall be filled by promotion, until the number of officers in that grade shall be reduced to the number fixed by the foregoing provisions of this act.

SEC. 5. That after June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and seventy, no appointments of cadets to the Naval Academy, at Annapolis, shall be made, until the number of midshipmen, acting midshipmen, and cadets shall be reduced to two hundred and fifty, which number shall not be hereafter exceeded.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Our correspondents are informed that communications intended for our columns, to receive prompt attention, should invariably be addressed to THE EDITOR OF THE ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL, Box 3,201, New York.

FORT HAYS, KANSAS.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: The following named officers are now stationed at this post: Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel G. Gibson, major Fifth Infantry; Brevet Colonel M. A. Reno, major Seventh Cavalry; Captain S. Wershine, Fifth Infantry; Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Benteen, captain Seventh Cavalry; Captain E. P. Ewers; Brevet Captain Brewster, lieutenant Seventh Cavalry (the gallant captain has just returned from the East with a bride); Lieutenants Baldwin, Baird (post adjutant), Rousseau (acting commissary of subsistence), and Tutes. The staff officers are Surgeon Meachem, Captain Kimball, assistant quartermaster, and Post Chaplain G. Collins.

The troops now here are Companies E and G, of the Fifth Infantry, and H, Seventh Cavalry. Another company of the Seventh was with us during the winter, but is now on the Solomon river, some seventy miles distant, under the command of Lieutenant De Rudio, of the Seventh Cavalry.

The weather during the entire winter has been very pleasant. Early in January a "cold snap" enabled us to "put up" eight hundred tons of ice. This is sufficient not only for the use of the garrison, but also for transient visitors.

We are busily engaged now in agricultural experiments. The officers contributed money, and we have ordered ornamental trees for the parade ground and wisterias for quarters. We hope to be successful in our initiatory experiments, but the dryness of the climate is against us. The soil is very much like that of Illinois, and could a Yankee invent a cheap irrigating machine, the Plains, now so unproductive, would produce cereals enough to feed the world.

The Indians, at present, are tolerably quiet. Several parties are roaming in quest of plunder and scalp, but thus far have committed no serious depredations. We fear trouble, but hope those in power will take such precautionary measures as will avert the danger of open hostilities.

The railroad is being pushed forward at the rate of one mile per day. We are assured that it will be completed to Denver by October. Its completion is desirable, and notwithstanding a formidable debt, the nation can afford to build this highway to the Pacific. It lessens the expense of our military establishment, develops a country otherwise unproductive, and constitutes a bond of union between the extreme sections of our country. Thus we believe that every dollar invested will, within ten years, more than add its value to the national wealth, and render us the better able to meet the obligations both of peace and war. And thus, too, those who are afraid of its great expense are "penny wise and pound foolish."

During the winter we have had divine service every Sabbath. Recently a Sabbath school has been organized. Adjutant Baird, a graduate of Yale, has an evening school for soldiers.

G. C.

OLD ARMY REGISTERS.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: If there is anything calculated to inspire with hope a subaltern despondent over the bad show for promotion ahead of him, it is to pick up among the old archives of his post an old Army Register of the date of 1857, and look it over. We found such a one the other day, a rather thin and diminutive volume bound in very flimsy paper. It was printed January 1, 1857, and yet the date of its receipt, written on its cover, at this frontier post, was February 27, 1857, which shows a degree of celerity in the workings of the Adjutant-General's office in those days which is decidedly refreshing to contemplate, when we remember that we have but lately received the Register of September 1, 1869.

It did not then take so many pages to put down the status of the Army, the line of which was composed of the First and Second Dragoons, First and Second Cavalry, a regiment of mounted riflemen, four regiments of artillery, and ten regiments of infantry.

It is a commentary on the changes of time that out of the 1,060 names of officers borne upon this old Register, there are 611 names, no one of which appears on the last Register. A pretty heavy percentage of loss for a period of only thirteen years. It may encourage the owners of the lowest grade of shoulder-strap to know that in this Register, among the modest second lieutenants of cavalry and mounted rifles, appear the names of Pegram, Hood, and Averill; and of the same rank in the infantry are Mower, W. F. Lee, Torbert, Hazen, Hill, and Philip H. Sheridan; while but one step higher up, among the first lieutenants of dragoons and cavalry, are the names of Buford, Stanley, and J. E. B. Stuart; and in the artillery in the same grade there are Davis, Schofield, Hartsuff, Ayres, Gillem, A. P. Hill, and Reynolds; and among the infantry there are Kautz, Grover, and Hancock, ornamenting the second grade from the foot.

Among the captains of dragoons are read the names of A. J. Smith, Graham, Pleasanton, Ewell, and Davidson. In the First Cavalry the third captain is George B. McClellan, and amicably near together, as captains in the Second Cavalry, are the names of Earl Van Dorn and George Stoneman.

Among the captains of artillery are Winder, Magruder, Ricketts, Hunt, Keyes, Ord, Pemberton, and Getty. Among the same grade in the "foot" appear Lyon, Sully, Steele, Sykes, Augur, Garnett, Jordan, Longstreet, Pickett, and Bee, none of whom are likely to be forgotten.

Among the field officers of dragoons and cavalry are the memorable names of E. V. Sumner, Joseph E. Johnston, Sedgwick (who can ever forget "kindly Uncle John?"), A. Sydney Johnston, Robert E. Lee, Hardee,

and George H. Thomas. It is noticeable that from the artillery there has not been any remarkable exodus of men who have risen to fame.

Among the "luffs" of engineers are Gillmore, Weitzel, and Franklin, and (oh! important omission) McPherson. Among the captains of the same corps are Barnard, Meigs, Beauregard, Wright, Humphreys, Meade, and Pope. Among the subalterns in the ordnance are Reno and Howard; and in the Adjutant-General's Department appear McDowell, Buell, and Fitz-John Porter.

There were then but 87 military posts in the country, the name of each one of which, with its commanding officer, and the corps by which it was garrisoned, appears in the back part of the Register. Out of all the officers then in service, but 250 had brevets, most of which are dated from '46, '47, and '48. There are scores of men in this old book, in the humble rank of subalterns of the line, who have since made national reputations, who were then at most only known to their company commanders as rather troublesome attaches on their muster-rolls, to the objects of their affections, and to their tailors.

Rising from the contemplation of the changes which these short thirteen years have wrought, let us be hard-hearted enough to hope that to us, who are now at the foot of the ladder, the next decade may bring just as rapid promotion as the past one has done, and that in 1883 some second lieutenant of infantry, chancing upon a Register of 1870, may look over it and pause awhile in wonder, as we have done, to find in his own grade names which, in those later days, will be high up among those forever known to fame.

CAIUS.

March 9, 1870.

SUNDAY INSPECTIONS.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: We sincerely hope that in the new regulations for the Army, which rumor says are to be acted upon by the present Congress, Article 30, paragraph 304, sections 2 and 3, will be so modified as to do away with the Sunday morning inspections and reviews. In the second Article of War "It is earnestly recommended to all officers and soldiers diligently to attend divine service." Now, sir, it is an indisputable fact in the Army, that it is almost an utter impossibility for either officers or soldiers to attend divine service in consequence of the inspections and reviews directed to be made in sections 2 and 3 of paragraph 304, "Revised Regulations for the Army," and it should only be necessary to bring the fact vividly and plainly before the eyes of the authorities who make the laws, to have this great evil remedied. For undoubtedly a great evil it is. We have heard officers of the Army over and over again deplore the existence of the portions of the paragraph above noted. Numbers of officers and soldiers throughout the Army are debarred from attending divine service by the practice referred to, who would otherwise gladly avail themselves of the privilege; and in a great Christian country like ours, it does not seem right that any class of its citizens should be prevented, by "rules and regulations" that have the force of laws, from attending the worship of God on Sundays.

The inspections directed to be made weekly could be made on any other day in the week as well as on Sunday, and far more satisfactorily to all engaged therein, for the sanctity of the Sabbath day is held in respect and veneration as much in the Army as out of it. It is a sad and serious fact that you will often hear the expression "that there is no Sunday in the Army," made use of by the rank and file, because Sunday is almost universally the day for inspections, reviews, full-dress drills, and soldiering generally. The men in the majority of the commands in the Army are working like any other day laborers from Monday morning to Saturday night, and as a consequence, Sunday is the grand day to soldier, viz.: inspect, review, drill, etc., etc., to the total extinction of all moral ideas relative to the Lord's Day. Hence the saying, "There is no Sunday in the Army."

We are certain that it is only necessary to bring the above facts to the notice of the many good and religious men in Congress, to have some other day made the legal day for "inspections and reviews" obligatory, and that any duty except guard, stables, and reveille, and tattoo roll-calls on a Sunday will, in time of peace, be illegal. It is a reformation much to be desired.

SUNDAY.

THE 800-TON VESSELS.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: In a letter to London *Engineering*, published in the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL, from Capt. Ericsson, in relation to the monitor system, I find the following remark:

"There is a third class of persons, however, outside of official circles, who, cheerfully accepting the situation, are now endeavoring to solve the following important problem: How can monitors superior in thickness of armor to our own be defeated, and what use might be made of those forty eight hundred ton iron vessels which Secretary Robeson desires to build for coast defence?"

By the new tonnage laws such vessels as the *Monadnock* measure a little over eight hundred tons, while vessels of the *Saugus* class measure five hundred and fifty tons. The *Monadnock* has proved herself one of the best vessels in the Navy, and equal to anything that floats, and the *Saugus*, a smaller vessel, has stood heavy fire without showing any signs of weakness.

A vessel of the *Monadnock* class will carry for harbor defence four twenty-inch guns when not loaded down with coal and provisions, and a vessel of the measurement of eight hundred tons (present law) will carry two twenty-inch guns.

The above-mentioned vessels will also carry for harbor defence eighteen inches of iron on the turrets, with fifteen-inch guns, and officers of experience are quite satisfied that our fifteen-inch shot propelled by one hundred pounds of powder will crash through the twelve-

inch iron hull plating of the British ships *Hercules* and *Devastation*, and knock their fourteen-inch turrets into a cocked hat.

If any one wants proof of this, let him visit Fort Delaware, on the Delaware river. He will there see a hole made in the best built fort in the United States through which a coach and four might be driven. That hole was made by a fifteen-inch shot fired at a distance of a little more than forty yards. The thick stone wall was backed inside with fifteen inches of iron plates and seven feet of sand bags, shored with heavy timber, and the fifteen-inch shot went through it all as if it had been putty!

Now in my opinion this fifteen-inch gun will bear much more than one hundred pounds of powder, and the shot will travel with a velocity that will smash through the sides of the best ships in the British Navy.

For harbor defence alone, any of our large monitors will carry twenty-inch guns and four or five inches more iron on the turrets, with a shield of oak outside, and a backing inside.

It has been demonstrated that the monitors can go anywhere on our coast, and can be assembled at short notice at any point where an enemy may threaten us.

What were formerly called fifteen hundred ton vessels are now rated at one thousand tons; hence eight hundred ton monitors for harbor defence will meet all the requirements.

Capt. Ericsson may rest easy in regard to the size of the forty monitors proposed for harbor defence. With our knowledge of the defects in those already built, we can construct others that will be much more efficient, even although they may not be credited with so much tonnage in the Register.

After all, it will be the guns that will do the work, and it is not a difficult matter to calculate what would have been the effect on the *Merrimack* had the first *Monitor* been armed with even one fifteen-inch gun.

An eight hundred ton vessel actually represents our *Monadnock* class nearly, or one thousand three hundred and seventy tons old measurement. The *Monadnock* is one thousand and ninety-one tons, as shown by the Navy Register.

NAVY.

OUR NAVY.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: According to the report of Secretary Robeson, which is fully confirmed, so far as relates to the efficiency of the Navy, by the report of Admiral Goldsborough and Commodore Boggs, we are in a very unsatisfactory condition.

It is true that a good number of our sharp ships have been altered in their rig, and some have had their four-bladed screws changed for two-bladed screws, so as not to create so much obstruction in sailing. Something has been done; perhaps all that could be done without condemning the entire masts, sails, and rigging of these vessels. Notwithstanding these changes, we have few if any perfectly-contrived cruising ships. The most interesting question to be answered by Congress is, what would our position be if a war should occur between us and England or France? I do not hesitate to say that before we could reorganize our large machine shops and building yards public and private, and construct suitable vessels for sea-going cruising, we should suffer very severely. It is, therefore, very wrong for Congress in a spasmodic fit of false economy to hesitate to carry out the recommendations of the Honorable Secretary. Congress should not only authorize the construction of ten or more powerful iron-clad sea-going ships, but it should get rid as fast as possible of every ship now pronounced unfit for cruising purposes on distant stations. And if Congress does nothing else, it should build a lot of fast, lightly armed, full-rigged ships, with nearly full steam power, suitable to send out at short notice to cruise against the commerce of the enemy. Whether we have monitors and iron-clads and torpedo boats, or not, we must have smart cruisers to strike the early blows at the trade of the enemy.

Some of the false economists will say, "When the Rebellion broke out we very promptly bought and fitted out a large number of merchant vessels, and we can do so again." To those who argue thus I would say, that a war with almost any European power would require a very different class of vessels from those we got up so promptly for blockading the ports of an enemy almost destitute of means to capture the weakest among them.

We want vessels not drawing over 18 or 20 feet of water, of models to sail fast, with steam power so arranged as to give them constant sea-going speed of at least ten knots, and so placed as not to interfere with setting full sail.

As to the kind of propeller to be applied, we must take into mature consideration all the advantages and disadvantages connected with the different forms of screws. If we have a screw of three or four blades, and a "well" to turn it up into, we interfere with the stern gun or guns, if we have them; of two blades only, we can turn them vertically abaft the stern-post, where they will offer little resistance to the speed of the ship under sail. But to get speed out of a two-blade propeller, we must have gearing, or we must move our pistons much too fast for safety and economy. A two-bladed screw causes much more vibration than one of four blades. Therefore I propose to have a disconnecting clutch as near the stuffing box as possible, and a small auxiliary engine and donkey boiler, the duty of which shall be to turn the screw just enough to neutralize the drag. When the inertia of the screw is once overcome, the ship being under sail, very little steam would be required to neutralize the drag—that is to say, with the breeze sufficient to give a speed of eight knots or more.

The donkey engine and boiler should be of sufficient power to propel the ship in a calm, and with smooth water, say three or four knots, and thus prove economically serviceable in crossing the localities called "doldrums," and sometimes in going through straits in calm

weather. A pair of 18 or 20-inch cylinders, taking hold of a disconnected shaft near the after-bearing, with plenty of high-pressure steam, would turn a screw of 15 feet diameter, of four blades, sufficiently to propel a ship of 1,500 tons, of fine model, at the rate named; and the cranks can be so arranged as to disconnect while the shaft is being connected for operating the main engines.

R. B. F.

LONGEVITY RATIONS.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: I would ask your indulgence to offer some remarks in regard to the 6th section of Mr. Abbott's bill in the United States Senate for increasing the efficiency of the Army. This section refers to the laws of the 5th July, 1838, and 2d March, 1867; the first gives the longevity rations to the Army and Marine Corps, and the second restores them to the retired officers, from whom they had been taken by the retiring law of 1856 of the Army.

It would almost seem as if this class of officers had in some way brought on them the ill opinion of Congress, and some others, who, in considering the subject, only look to the expenditure of the money, without remembering how faithfully it has been earned by those officers in the long service rendered by them. One would suppose the withdrawal of the authority by Congress of the President's power to employ these officers on active duty was sufficiently galling. There are many thus retired who are fully capable, and in many cases more so than those retained on the active list, and now, as if this was not sufficiently soul and spirit killing, it is proposed by the 6th section of this bill to deprive them of the longevity rations; yes, deprive officers of 40 and 50 years' service of what the very term given to these rations, "longevity," would entitle them to. And remember, those who have reached the age of 70 (the limit of man's life) have but a short time to be a burden (if there are any hearts who, under the circumstances, can consider them so) to the country, and besides themselves the most of them have families dependent on them.

I would propose that the retired officers (with one exception) receive their pay proper, their longevity rations, provided no officer shall receive less than four rations, and one half the allowance for quarters, fuel, and servants that similar grades do on the active list.

The exception I refer to are those retired officers who may have been 50 years in the service, and are 70 years of age. They should receive the full pay and emoluments of their grade on the active list.

Now I would ask those who have the power to grant this, but are disposed to object on the ground of increasing the taxes of the people, just to ask themselves, how much would this provision for their old and faithful servants increase the taxes of the whole community of the United States? Why, comparatively nothing.

Trusting these remarks may reach the heartstrings of those who have the power to grant the request, I cast my bark on the wide waters and leave the result to Him who doeth all things well.

JUSTICE.

PAY OF THE MARINE CORPS.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: The enlisted men of the Army are paid six times in each year, or once in every two months, while those of the Marine Corps receive their pay but four times a year, or once in every quarter. Would it not be but fair that the latter, when serving on shore, should receive their pay as often as the former, since their incidental expenses are at least as great?

The inconvenience of the long intervals between payments is often most discouraging.

MARINE.

MARINE BARRACKS, WASHINGTON, D. C., March 14.

A QUESTION IN INSURANCE.

WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' BENEFIT LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY, No. 132 BROADWAY, NEW YORK, February 9, 1870.

H. Sweeney, U. S. Army, Lampasas, Texas.

SIR: Your favor 21st January received. We would prefer not issuing a policy upon the life of a person exposed to the perils of Indian warfare. Very truly,

ROBERT A. GRANNISS, Secretary.

LAMPASAS, TEXAS, March 1, 1870.

Respectfully forwarded to editor ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL for the information of Army officers at large, and to save them postage.

H. SWEENEY,
First Lieutenant U. S. Army.

LETTERS IN THE NEW YORK POST-OFFICE.

The following is a list of letters remaining in the New York Post-office on the dates given. These letters are retained in the New York Office for one month from date, after which they are sent to the Dead-Letter Office, Washington.

ARMY.

MARCH 7.

Almy, G. B., Captain.
Brooks, G. F., Captain.
Borland, S., Captain.
Davidson, A., Captain.
Ellis, W., Captain.

Jones, A. J., Captain.
Mabken, J. H., Brevet Major.
Rice, W. M., Colonel.
Smalley, H., Colonel.
Sweeney, T. W., Major.
Smith, M. L., Colonel.

MARCH 10.

Allen, W. G., Colonel.
Baker, W., Captain.
Dearing, C. F., Captain.
Myers, F. A., Major.
McCarty, F. L., Lieutenant.

Norton, G. D., Captain.
Reid, S., Captain.
Stevenson, G., Lieutenant.
Webster, S. S., Colonel.
Wiley, L. B., Captain.

MARCH 14.

Harriman, I., Captain.
McInnes, A., Captain.
Mullin, B. F., Colonel.
Phipps, C. C., Major.

Storrow, S. A., Major-3.
Thompson, W. H., Major.
Weeks, F. M., Captain-4.
Wiley, S. B., Captain.

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JAMES M. BROWN.....of Brown Bros. & Co.
SAMUEL L. MITCHELL.....Merchant.
ELIJAH T. BROWN.....of Elijah T. Brown & Co.
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REFERENCES:

General Sherman, U. S. A., and lady, Washington, D. C.
Major-General George G. Meade, U. S. A., Philadelphia.
Brigadier-General Lawrence P. Graham, U. S. A., and lady, Austin, Texas.
Brigadier-General Innis N. Palmer, U. S. A., and lady, Omaha, Nebraska.
Vice-Admiral David Porter, U. S. N., Washington, D. C.
Rear-Admiral Joseph Smith, U. S. N., Washington, D. C.
Mrs. Admiral Dahlgren, Washington, D. C.

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A FIRST LIEUTENANT OF ARTILLERY WILL transfer with any First Lieutenant on duty with his regiment or on waiting orders, if satisfactory inducements are offered. Address SATISFACTORY, care ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.

A SECOND LIEUTENANT OF INFANTRY (white regiment), serving with his regiment in the Department of the Platte, desires to transfer with a Second Lieutenant of Cavalry (white regiment). Satisfactory inducements offered. Address MARCH, 1867, care ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.

A CAPTAIN OF INFANTRY, WITH RANK OF 1855, serving at a pleasant post, desires to transfer with a Captain of Cavalry of same rank. The regiment being one of the old Infantry regiments, an inducement for this transfer will be given. Address CAPTAIN OF INFANTRY, No. 20 North 10th St., Philadelphia Pa.

A FIRST LIEUTENANT OF ARTILLERY (Commission dates early in 1866) will transfer with a First Lieutenant of Cavalry or Infantry (white), whose commission dates about the same time, upon certain terms. Address ARTILLERY, care of ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL, with full name, regiment, and terms.

The Senate Military Committee will take up the House Army bill on Monday next. The Committee are said to differ widely on the question of the policy of reducing the Army at present, and on the best means of reduction, if reduction is agreed upon, and it is probable that the bill will be materially altered before it is reported to the Senate. Mr. Wilson is said to be in favor of decreasing the line of the Army by reducing the number of regiments, while Mr. Abbott, a member of the Committee, thinks the Army is not large enough. Since the amendment authorizing the furnishing of quarters and fuel in kind was adopted, the officers stationed in Washington have withdrawn their opposition to the pay section of the bill.

U. S. ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, MARCH 19, 1870.

The Editor does not hold himself responsible for individual expressions of opinion in communications addressed to the JOURNAL.

The postage on the JOURNAL is twenty-five cents a year, payable quarterly, in advance, at the office where received.

Subscribers who purpose binding their volumes at the end of the year should be careful to preserve their files of the paper, as we no longer retype the paper, and are not able, therefore, to supply all of the back numbers of this volume.

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THE INDIAN WAR IN MONTANA.

THE recent attack on Big Horn's camp of Piegiens, on the Marias river, in Montana, has called forth deep feeling in the country, and illustrates the great importance of Congress clearly defining the general policy of the Government towards the hostile Indians, as well as those who are in treaty relations or settled on defined reservations. The fact that some women and children may have been killed has called out very severe expressions on the floor of Congress, even touching the heart of the chairman of the Committee on Military Affairs, and causing him to withdraw from his Army bill the clause transferring Indian affairs to the War Department (which the Army never wanted) on mere newspaper statements, before the official reports had been received. These have since been received at Army Headquarters, and have been published; they show that this particular band of Indians has perpetrated many acts of murder and theft on the border settlements of Montana, that the people thereof became clamorous, that the resident superintendent of Indian affairs had reported as early as August last his inability to control these Indians, and had called on the War Department to take them in hand. General SHERIDAN, in whose military command Montana is, submitted his plan of operations, a copy of which was promptly sent to the Indian Bureau, where it met with silent approval. This plan was to the effect that his limited force in Montana could accomplish nothing effectual at that time, viz., October, but that in mid-winter he could strike these Indians a hard blow, punishing the actual perpetrators and making an example that would deter other bands similarly situated from following the example of the Piegiens.

The officer to whom General SHERIDAN committed the execution of this plan was Brevet Colonel EUGENE M. BAKER, major Second Cavalry—an officer who has served continuously since 1859 with great credit, and is filled with as much enthusiasm and humane feeling as any of those who denounce him. He acted under the immediate orders of General P. R. DE TROBRIAND, Thirteenth U. S. Infantry—an officer educated in France, who served with honor in our civil war, and who at its close was retained as a colonel of infantry. This officer is on the spot, and has again and again checked the tendency on the part of the people of Montana to a general Indian war. He not only justifies this special attack on the Piegiens, but thinks the officers and troops engaged are entitled to special honors. Again, General SHERIDAN took the precaution to send General JAMES A. HARDIE, inspector-general, out to Montana to judge for him whether the circumstances there existing made the punishment of these Piegiens a necessity in order to secure the peace of the Territory. General HARDIE also justifies the affair. That Colonel BAKER was compelled to make this attack on the Piegiens, at the time and in the manner he did, is plain; and the only question open is whether, in his attack, he allowed his men wrongfully and cruelly to slaughter women and children. All who have ever fought Indians realize the difficulty of discriminating between women and children, especially in the dawn of morn-

ing and in the confusion of a surprised camp. The women in dress and appearance resemble the men, and they fight like the men, and until resistance has ceased it is next to impossible to distinguish the one from the other. On this occasion, there were forty lodges standing, in which were 173 killed and one hundred women and children taken prisoners, making about 300 in all, or about eight to a lodge. Of those killed at least half must have been men; and the balance may have been women and children.

Though it may seem harsh that the blow should thus involve women and children, we know that it has ever been the case.

Two modern instances occur that are almost parallel with this of Colonel BAKER:

On the 22d of May, 1850, Brevet Captain N. LYON, Second Infantry, reports from Anderson's ranch in Napa valley, California, to Major E. R. S. CANBY, assistant adjutant-general, in Monterey, California, that he (LYON), in pursuance of orders, had left Benicia on the 6th of May in command of the party to punish the Indians on Clear lake and Pitt river who had been depredating on the new settlements above Sonoma. He reached the foot of Clear lake on the 11th, and despatched Lieutenant DAVIDSON's dragoon company with Lieutenant HAYNES's mountain howitzer around by the west to the head of the lake, whilst he with the infantry in boats proceeded by water to an island on which the Indians had taken refuge. A lodgment was effected on the island "under a strong opposition by the Indians, who, perceiving us once on the island, took flight in every direction, plunging into the water among the heavy growth of tule (bulrush) which surrounds the islands, and which, on the northern and eastern sides, extends to the shore. Having rapidly cleared the island, he saw no alternative but to pursue them into the tule, and accordingly orders were given that the ammunition be slung around the necks of the men, and they proceed into the tule, and pursue and destroy as far as possible. The tule was thus thoroughly searched with severe and protracted efforts, and with most gratifying results. The number killed he confidently reports not less than sixty, and doubtless extended to a hundred and upwards. The rancheria was then burned, together with a large amount of stores collected in it.

"Being satisfied that the Indians on Russian river had participated in the murder of STONE and KELLEY, and were now harboring one or two tribes known to be most guilty, he proceeded for them, etc." There a similar blow was struck. Ever since there has been peace there, and that region is one of the best in California. The people of California knew then that women and children had been involved in the destruction of these bands, and never accused Captain LYON of unnecessary cruelty; and the people of the United States remember that this same Captain LYON was one of the very first to take up arms in Missouri to defend our insulted nationality, and to give his life and all he possessed to his country.

Again, on the 5th day of September, 1855, Brevet Brigadier-General W. S. HARNEY, from Blue Water creek, not far from the North Platte, reports an engagement on the 3d of September between the United States troops under his command and a camp of Brule Sioux, which report bears the hearty approval of General SCOTT, dated September 29, 1855. He writes, "that on his arrival at Ash Hollow on the evening of the 2d, he ascertained that a large portion of the Brule Sioux under LITTLE THUNDER was encamped on Blue Water creek, six miles north-west of Ash Hollow, and four from the left bank of the North Platte.

"Having no doubt from the information he had received from the people of the country he had met on the road, and from his guides, of the real character and hostile intentions of the party in question, he at once commenced preparation for attacking it. He ordered Lieutenant-Colonel P. Sr. GEORGE COOKE, Second Dragoons, with Companies E and H of that regiment, light Company G, Fourth Artillery, and Company E, Tenth Infantry, all mounted, to move at 3 A. M. on the 3d instant, and secure a position which would cut off the retreat of the Indians to the Sand Buttes, the

reputed stronghold of the Brules. This movement was executed in a most faultless and successful manner, not having apparently attracted the notice or excited the suspicion of the enemy up to the very moment of the encounter.

"At 4:30 A. M. he left camp with Companies A, E, H, I, and K, Sixth Infantry, under the immediate command of Major A. CADY of that regiment, and proceeded towards the principal village of the Brules with the view of attacking it openly in concert with the surprise contemplated through the cavalry. But, before reaching it, the lodges were struck, and their occupants commenced a rapid retreat up the valley of the Blue Water, precisely in the direction from whence he expected the mounted troops. They halted, however, short of these, and a parley ensued between their chief and himself, in which he stated the causes of dissatisfaction which the Government felt toward the Brules, and closed the interview by telling him that his people had depredated on and insulted our citizens whilst moving through our country, that they had massacred our troops under most aggravated circumstances, and that now the day of retribution had come; that he did not wish to harm him (LITTLE THUNDER) personally, as he professed to be a friend of the whites, but that he must either deliver up the young men whom he acknowledged he could not control, or they must suffer the consequences of their past misconduct, and take the chances of a battle. Not being able, of course, however willing he might have been, to deliver up all the butchers of our people, LITTLE THUNDER returned to his band to report to them his decision, and to prepare them for the contest which must follow.

"Immediately after his disappearance from view, he (General HARNEY) ordered the advance of his infantry, the leading company, Captain TODD's, as skirmishers, supported by Company H, Sixth Infantry, under Lieutenant MCCLARY, the remaining companies being held in hand for ulterior movements. The skirmishers under Captain TODD opened their fire, crowned the bluff on the right bank of the stream (where the Indians had taken up their last position) in a very spirited and gallant manner, driving the savages therefrom into the snare laid for them by the cavalry, which last troops burst on them so suddenly and so unexpectedly as to cause them to cross, instead of ascending the valley of the Blue Water, and seek an escape by the only avenue now open to them, through the bluffs of the left bank of the stream. But although they availed themselves of this outlet for escape from complete capture, they did not do so without serious molestation, for the infantry not only took them in flank with their long-range rifles, but the cavalry made a most spirited charge on their opposite or left flank and rear, pursuing them for five or six miles over a very rugged country, killing a large number of them and completely dispersing the whole party."

The results of this affair were 86 killed, 5 wounded, and about 70 women and children captured. Although this report does not state that any women and children were killed, it may as plainly be inferred from the circumstances attending the attack as in the case of Colonel BAKER, who does not distinguish the age and sex of his killed.

All successful Indian attacks are of this nature. It is impossible to reach the guilty parties alone; nor is it ever practicable to catch a war party in the open field. All who have had experience in Indian warfare since the first settlement of this country have attacked the towns and camps of Indians by surprise if possible, and invariably women and children suffer the consequences.

No officer or soldier will kill a woman or child knowingly; but that many of them are killed or maimed is known to everybody. Those who would befriend the Indians should labor to get them localized and settled under the protection of the Government, instead of deploring the sad consequences which are inevitable in the attempt to keep a large area of our country in the joint occupation of two races so widely dissimilar and naturally so antagonistic as are the Indians and the white race. All Ohio, Indiana, Iowa, Wisconsin, Nebraska, and Kansas, have been settled by the gradual extension of settlements, protruding more

and more into the Indian country. For this the Army is in no manner responsible, and for years they have stood between these settlers and the aborigines thereby displaced, catching the blows and curses of both. Congress, and Congress alone, has the power and right to prepare for the natural increase of our domain; and in this case, if blame there be, it rests on the House of Representatives, as clearly demonstrated by the report of the Secretary of the Interior, made to the President on the 7th instant.

THE HOUSE ARMY BILL.

THE speed with which the LOGAN Army bill was hurried through the House may perhaps be accepted as a guarantee that the consideration it there received was but a *pro forma* and perfunctory one. That body seems to have been mainly desirous to rid itself in the quickest way of a disagreeable subject, and to impose upon the Senate the burden of grave legislation if any be required. We cannot bring ourselves to believe that the House seriously intended its race-horse action to pass for military law-making, or that it is forgetful that precisely such action last year threw the Army into embarrassment. We think it doubtful whether the Senate will rest its legislation on this unconsidered basis, more especially as it has initiated sundry measures of its own. At all events, we shall rely upon the latter body to sanction no measures so unwise, ungenerous, and unjust.

The objection to [the House bill is a fundamental one. It is radically wrong, because it contemplates throwing out of their profession officers who have deserved no such treatment, and so brings the good faith and honor of the country under reproach. It is unnecessary, because all the economy that it seeks to compass by abrupt means could easily be effected through natural casualty; and it is not even specially economical, in one sense, because the necessary provisions for advance pay, and so forth, with the expenses of sudden reorganization, weigh against its usefulness. But we do not now propose, even though we regard these considerations as pivotal ones, to recapitulate what we have already set forth in several articles upon this subject. Enough to add that, since the comparison has been made in the House of our Army with sundry European services, it would be more pertinent to show in what respectable service grossly ungrateful treatment of officers is the rule, and alleged popular cries for economy in civil service are made the pretence for cutting into the quick of the national defence. For our part, while we believe as heartily as any supporter of this bill in constantly improving army systems, we do not believe in handling professional officers like a crowd of hungry politicians, and turning them out without ceremony, or even with but a year's warning, with each new experiment in improved organization.

Passing, however, to the digest and review of what the House has actually done, and comparing the original bill, which has been already exhaustively discussed in our columns, with the bill passed on the 10th of March in the House, we note, first, that the provision for assembling a board for reduction is retained. Two amendments only have been added to this scheme as originally explained by us. Of these, the first touches the "lists," which, as our readers will recall, are to be forthwith made by all commanding officers in departments and staffs of all subordinate officers in their commands who can, without detriment to the service, be mustered out of the Army; and it provides that "such reports shall set out the instances of such inexperience, inefficiency, immoral conduct, or other cause of want of adaptation to the military service upon which the report is founded in each case specifically; which reports shall be open to public inspection." We regard this as a mitigation of what might be in some cases a great hardship. It is true that the whole scheme amounts to making a sweeping "black list" for the Army; that it is as if there should be a universal court-martialing everywhere for real or alleged offences. But at least it preserves to the officer attacked some of the benefits of a court-martial, whereby he may discover the charges and speci-

fications. The board, we admit, by its high constitution, being composed of one major-general, two brigadier-generals, and two colonels, while no officer above the latter rank will be exposed to this review and criticism, may be supposed to be as nearly infallible and as abundantly charitable as any board can well be; and the fact that it would be appointed by the Secretary of War and its report approved by the President is an additional guarantee of fairness and ability. But the board is to rely, or rather will inevitably rely, largely on these "reports" and "lists" coming from all parts of the service; and, while professional candor and courtesy would doubtless be the rule, man is mortal, and this safeguard of public charges is a welcome one.

At best, it is an unwelcome task that is thus imposed on commanding officers; and we are not aware that the usual method of getting rid of unworthy officers has failed. "Inexperience" seems to us also a hard fault to report against some officers, and especially against those who, like PITT, as charged by the Earl of Grafton, are guilty of "the atrocious crime of being young." Even a temporary "inefficiency" might be credible in some, who, in these piping times of peace, may not have lighted upon a kind of service as yet in which they could show much else. But it is all the more necessary to have the proviso inserted which has been inserted; and our objection to the whole matter is not so much to its form—for, on the contrary, the appointment of a good board is the only just way of accomplishing the purpose—as to the provision it makes for mustering out, not only those officers who shall not be recommended by the board as useful to the service, but even some of those who are so recommended. This last is, indeed, an astounding provision. "And also," says the bill, "all officers whose names are in the list so recommended by said board, who shall not be transferred or appointed as aforesaid by the President within said space of six months, shall in like manner be honorably mustered out." That is to say, after a stringent official examination has been made of those officers who cannot be "spared without detriment to the service," and the list has been made out, some of these very officers are to be spared, no matter with what detriment to the service. In the seventh month or tenth month after the act becomes law, vacancies may, and probably will exist, requiring good appointments; but all the spare officers pronounced competent will have been mustered out, "without detriment to the service," one month or four months before, with a year's pay in advance, so that others may be hired for the vacant places under this queer bill for efficiency and economy.

When, also, the commanding officers of departments and staffs and the board shall have made up their minds who are competent and who are not, this bill proposes to turn all these out together, the only distinction being the grace of a six months' interval.

In considering the question of removing the Brooklyn Navy-yard, we hope Congress will not lose sight of the important part it plays in the defence of New York harbor. The disadvantages of its present location are apparent, and some of these time will only increase; but, if it is to be removed, its new location should be selected with primary reference to the protection of this important seaport, which is by no means too well guarded against a naval attack. It will not do to remove this yard to New London. It may be desirable to have a yard there, but not the Brooklyn Navy-yard. A new site should be selected somewhere within the present line of the defences of New York, and should if possible be located where it can be protected by an interior line of defence, formed of obstructions, fixed torpedoes or guns, or by all of these. It should be accessible for the delivery of materials from this city, and within reach of the railroad and other lines of transit converging here. It should have area sufficient for building up a great naval station sufficient for all future wants. These conditions can, we do not doubt, be provided for somewhere near New York; but it is not best to make any change until we are sure that we are to make an improvement.

DETAILS OF THE PIEGAN FIGHT.

(Correspondence of the Philadelphia Ledger.)

BOZEMAN, MONTANA TERRITORY, February 24.

On the 6th of January we left Fort Ellis, M. T., and proceeded to Fort Shaw, on the Sun river, where the expedition was organized. Here we had to remain several days on account of the extreme coldness of the weather, the thermometer showing from 15 to 25 degrees below zero during the daytime.

As soon as this moderated we commenced our hunt after the Piegan tribe of the Blackfoot Indians, who had been for some time past the perpetrators of numerous murders and robberies in Northern Montana.

We left Fort Shaw at daybreak on the 19th of January, and marched to the Teton river, where we lay all day on the 20th. Our command consisted of Companies F, G, H, and L, Second U. S. Cavalry, and a detachment of sixty mounted men from the Thirteenth Infantry, at Fort Shaw. Two companies of the Thirteenth Infantry (dismounted) accompanied us as wagon guard. The whole expedition was under the immediate command of Brevet Colonel E. M. Baker, major Second U. S. Cavalry. Leaving the Teton at dark on the evening of the 20th, we marched to a well concealed camp just below the dry fork of the Marias river, where we lay until dark on the evening of the 21st.

Here we left our wagon train and guard, and, taking only a couple of blankets on our saddles and a few pack mules with rations, we commenced a bee-line march across the bluffs for the point where our guide, Joe Kip, expected to find the Piegans camped. We marched all night, and at early dawn concealed ourselves in a pocket in the bluffs, where we were compelled to pass the whole of a miserably cold day without water or wood sufficient even to cook coffee. At dark on the evening of the 22d, we once more resumed our toilsome march, and at length reached a mighty ravine, which, the guide informed us, had never been passed but by two white men. This we readily believed, for the difficulties it presented were truly formidable.

Here one of our men had the misfortune to break his leg, but rather than be left in such a country with only two companions, he summoned fortitude sufficient to ride his horse twenty miles further, although he was in terrible agony the whole distance.

At daybreak on the morning of the 23d, we struck the Marias river about 60 miles south of the British Possessions, and came upon a teepee, occupied by Gray Wolf and his family, numbering in all fifteen, who were made prisoners as quietly as possible. From Gray Wolf we forced the information that Black Eagle and Big Horn, with the main camp of the Piegans, were at Big Bend, eight miles down the river; and that Mountain Chief, with a few warriors, was camped a few miles further down.

The command at once started on a gallop for Black Eagle's camp, and found the distance about sixteen miles; this they had covered by 7 o'clock A. M., when they burst like a hurricane upon the camp, which they found to consist of thirty-two lodges, eleven on the north and twenty-one on the south side of the river. The Indians attempted resistance and fired a few shots, one of them taking effect on a soldier of Company L, Second Cavalry, killing him instantly. This so infuriated the command that they at once put an end to resistance by charging right in among the teepees, and shooting down every one they could find. The work of slaughter continued for about three hours, when the troops could find no more Indians to kill, except a few squaws and papooses; these they made prisoners, together with Wolf Tail, a notorious chief, whom they afterwards killed.

The whole herd, amounting to over three hundred horses, was driven in, and a guard put over it, while the remainder of the command proceeded to Mountain Chief's camp, which they found to be fifteen miles distant. Arrived there, they found that the camp had been alarmed in time, and not an Indian was to be found. Evidence of their hasty departure was ample; the lodges just struck, the pots full of meat still on the fires, and robes and property of every description lying around. There were only seven teepees in this camp, and not forty-four, as erroneously stated in the first newspaper accounts of the affair.

The pack mules with rations did not arrive at this camp until nearly three o'clock the next morning, and the troops having been fasting for thirty-six hours, marching a distance of between seventy and eighty miles and fighting for some hours, lacked neither inclination nor ability to do ample justice to the frugal fare which awaited them. The results of the expedition have been variously stated by different newspapers, but the correct results are as follows: one hundred and seventy-three Indians counted dead on the field; thirty-nine lodges destroyed with all their property; over three hundred horses captured, among them some stolen stock. Big Horn, Red Horn, Heavy Runner, Wolf Tail, and Spotted Wolf, chiefs, were all killed. Black Eagle managed to escape, but we afterward found out from the Bloods that he was wounded.

It is believed that many more Indians were wounded, who crawled off in the brush to die, the count as above given including only those who were found dead in the camp. The squaws and children were given a lodge and a few necessities, and were left in the camp. The loss of the troops was one man killed. On the morning of the 24th we left the scene of devastation and commenced our homeward march, which we expedited as much as possible on account of having no rations or forage. On the 25th we came upon a large Blood camp, which, however, was rapidly deserted on our approach; a half-breed was despatched after the retreating Bloods, and succeeded in inducing some of them to return; these came laden with buffalo meat as presents to the soldiers, and on demand readily gave up what stolen stock they had in their possession. On the 26th we reached our wagon train, and arrived on the 28th at Fort Shaw, where we lay over for a day, and returned to Fort Ellis on the 5th of February, after suffering for thirty-one

days more cold and hardships than we had supposed men could possibly endure. Wherever we passed on our return we were greeted with cheers, and invited to partake freely of the hospitality of the people.

PETER GAYNOR.

COLONEL BAKER'S REPORT.

FORT SHAW, M. T., February 18, 1870.

Brevet Major J. T. McGinness, Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, District of Montana.

I have the honor to submit the following report of the scout made by me against the hostile Piegan and Blood Indians.

Pursuant to Special Orders No. 62, headquarters District of Montana, I left Fort Ellis on the 6th of January with two squadrons of the Second Cavalry, consisting of Company H, Captain Edward Bull; Company L, Brevet Major Lewis Thompson; Company G, Captain S. H. Norton; and Company F, under command of Lieutenant G. T. Dane. Arrived at Fort Shaw on the 14th. On our arrival at Fort Shaw Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel G. H. Higbee was ordered to report to me with a detachment of fifty-five mounted infantry, and Captain R. A. Surry with his company of the Thirteenth Infantry.

I left Fort Shaw on the 19th, and marched to Teton river, where we remained in camp until the morning of the 20th, when we left camp and made a night march to the mouth of Muddy creek, a branch of the Teton.

I remained in camp here until the evening of the 21st, and then marched for Marias river, expecting to be able to reach Big Bend the next morning, having understood from my guide that that was where the Indians were encamped. We were obliged to camp in a ravine or dry fork of Marias till the night of the 22d, when we broke camp, and marched to Marias river, arriving there on the morning of the 23d.

We succeeded, about eight o'clock, in surprising the camp of Bear Chief and Big Horn. We killed one hundred and seventy-three Indians, and captured over one hundred women and children, and three hundred horses.

I ordered Lieutenant Doane to remain in this camp, and destroy all the property, while I marched down the river, after the camp of Mountain Chief, who, I understood, was camped four miles below. After marching sixteen miles, I found a camp of seven lodges, that had been abandoned in great haste, leaving everything. The Indians had scattered in every direction, so that it was impossible to pursue them. The lodges were burnt next morning, and the command started for the Northwest Fur Company's station.

Arriving there on the 25th, I sent for the chiefs of the Bloods and had a consultation with them, making them give up all the stock. They promised they would be responsible for the good behavior of their tribe.

On the 25th we started for Fort Shaw, where we arrived on the 29th of January.

The cavalry command left Fort Ellis on the 31st, arriving here on the 6th of February, having made a march of about six hundred miles in one month, and this in the coldest weather that has been known in Montana for years. Too much credit cannot be given to the officers and men of the command for their conduct during the whole expedition. The result of the expedition is 173 killed, and over a hundred prisoners, women and children. These were allowed to go free, as it was ascertained that some of them had small-pox. Forty-four lodges, with all their supplies and stores, were destroyed, and three hundred horses captured.

Our casualties were one man killed, and one man with a broken leg, from a fall from his horse.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant.

E. M. BAKER,

Major Second Cavalry, Brevet Colonel U. S. Army.

The report is accompanied by the following indorsement:

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF DAKOTA, }
ST. PAUL, MINN., March 4, 1870. }

Respectfully forwarded for the information of the Lieutenant-General commanding the Military Division of the Missouri.

It was not known when Colonel Baker's expedition received its orders that small-pox was in the camps. He was directed to attack, and it was supposed the warriors belonging to those camps were all present. If they were not, as has since been alleged, it is presumed the fact was not known to Colonel Baker until after the attack ended. It is due to Colonel Baker and all concerned that these reports should be promptly published.

WINFIELD S. HANCOCK,

Major-General U. S. Army, commanding.

GENERAL SHERIDAN'S CONGRATULATORY ORDER.

General Sheridan, on the 12th, issued the following General Order:

The Lieutenant-General commanding this military district takes pleasure in announcing to his command the complete success of a detachment of the Second Cavalry and the Thirteenth Infantry, under command of Brevet Colonel E. M. Baker, of the Second Cavalry, against a band of Piegan Indians in Montana. These Indians, whose proximity to the British line has furnished them an easy and safe protection against attack, have hitherto murdered and stolen with comparative impunity, in defiance and contempt of the authority of the Government. After having been repeatedly warned, they have at last received a carefully-prepared and well-merited blow in the middle of winter, with the thermometer below zero, and when experience had led them to believe they could not be reached the blow fell. One hundred and seventy-three Indians were killed, three hundred horses captured, and the village and property of the band totally destroyed. The Lieutenant-General cannot commend too highly the spirit and conduct of the troops and their commander; the difficulties and hardships they experienced in the inclemency of the

weather; and as one of the results of this severe, but necessary and well-merited punishment of these Indians, he congratulates the citizens of Montana upon the prospect of future security.

A RAID ON THE ARMY.

(From the New York Times.)

We are advocates of stringent economy and retrenchment in the public service wherever they can be applied with justice and a wise regard for ultimate saving to the tax-payers; but there is always danger that the custodians of public expenditure may allow their zeal to outstrip their discretion, or that they may be carried away by a desire to make a display of saving, regardless of losses that ultimately may ensue. We think that an illustration of this is to be found in the repeated raids which have been made upon the Army by Congress since the war closed. There is no doubt that the advent of peace imposed upon that body a vast and disagreeable labor of military reduction, but it was one which demanded the utmost circumspection to prevent the grossest injustice to individuals, as well as great resulting detriment to the public service.

The Army has been subjected to repeated depletions, and up to this time, perhaps, there has been little reason or disposition for general complaint. But the new bill now before Congress, and which was debated in the House on Thursday, is naturally creating a stir of apprehension. It proposes to abolish the grades of general and lieutenant-general, to reduce the number of major-generals from five to three, and of brigadiers from ten to six. The designations are to be made by the President without regard to seniority, and the others are to be mustered out. The chiefs of staff are hereafter to rank as colonels instead of brigadiers, and present incumbents are to be retained with the reduced rank and pay. The President is authorized to place upon the retired list, and order to be mustered out, in his discretion, such officers as he may designate, not exceeding 250 in number, with one year's pay and allowances. Brevet rank is to be abolished, and no officer allowed to hold any civil office. The control of Indian affairs is transferred to the War Office in pursuance of the President's recommendation, and the pay table is reduced and fixed definitely at a sum certain in lieu of all commutations.

There are some features of the new bill which are salutary and proper, and some which are harsh and oppressive. The sections which provide for mustering out cannot fail to work cruelly upon many worthy officers to whom the nation stands deeply indebted for substantial services during the war. We hold that the country is under a deep and abiding obligation to those gallant men who have dedicated their lives to its service and have disqualified themselves for the successful prosecution of civil pursuits. We do not believe that the people desire to ignore their claims, or to be ungrateful or niggardly. We go even a step further, and seriously question if the public service will be at all the gainer by such a policy.

Those who are best acquainted with the service are aware that in every duty to which the regular army officer is assigned he is incorruptible and saving; and that by comparison with an equal number of civilians, appointed to perform the same service, and through political influence, the expense would be largely in favor of the Government. In our opinion every worthy officer of the Army could be profitably employed. With our immense territory and the diversified requirements of the public service, there is no difficulty in finding necessary detached service, for which our supernumerary officers are peculiarly fitted, to keep them all profitably employed. By doing so we could spare the Government the humiliation and shame which will otherwise be brought upon it.

The abolition of brevet rank is a step which is open to serious debate. There is much to be said on both sides, and we are disposed to take the affirmative. Previous to the war brevets were granted sparingly, and solely for merit. They were then a badge of honor, and were cherished and recognized as such. Subsequently, however, they were conferred almost indiscriminately through political influence, and the consequence has been that they have become cheapened below desirability. A great many, of course, were properly conferred, but in the plentiful distribution of them they ceased to be distinctive or specially honorable. We believe that the service will be benefited by abolishing them altogether.

With regard to the proposed reduction of pay we feel warranted in speaking only in general terms. We believe we echo the general sentiment in advocating liberal compensation to the Army. We require them to be gentlemen, and to maintain their positions as such, and we know that the uncertain exigencies of the service preclude the more moderate expense of a fixed domicile. Whether the proposed new pay table is adjusted upon this basis, and is ample in view of the new adjustments of values, we will not pretend to say. That is a matter wherein the Army must look out for itself, through the influence which it is always able to bring to bear upon Congress.

Our only apprehension is that Congress may go too far under the whip and spur of retrenchment, and, overlooking greater and more proper fields of reform, do injustice to a class of men to whom the nation stands largely indebted, and bound by a thousand ties of gratitude and honorable obligation.

A BOARD of Officers has been appointed to investigate and report upon the facts connected with the robbery of the State Treasury at Austin, Texas, in December, 1869. The Board is composed of the following officers: Brevet Major-General Cuvier Grover, lieutenant-colonel U. S. Army, acting assistant inspector-general; Major Edwin D. Judd, paymaster U. S. Army; Brevet Major James Curtis, captain U. S. Army, acting assistant inspector-general.

FACTS FOR THE HISTORY OF THE GREAT REBELLION.

II.

THE writer had had, during the night's march to Manassas Junction, full opportunity to think over the incidents of the fight of the 28th of August, and the probable effect of the absence of our troops from the point just left on the Warrenton pike. Every one in the army knew that Jackson was separated entirely from his own army, and ought to be surrounded and destroyed by ours before he succeeded in effecting a junction with the main body of his own; and it did not require any great amount of warlike genius to see that we had left the door open for this junction to be effected.

Impressed with the importance of the situation, and anxious that General Pope himself should be informed of it, the writer attempted to find his headquarters amidst the ruins left by Jackson at Manassas Junction. He was not there, but was reported near the bridge over Bull Run, and, by the time the rider had reached there, his headquarters had been removed to Centreville, whither he was followed at a gallop, and the report made to General Pope in a little hut in Centreville. The result of that interview was that the writer was furnished with a fresh horse and a written order from General Pope to General Fitz-John Porter to move with his corps, taking King's division with him, out on the road leading from Manassas Junction to Gainesville, with instructions to deliver this order as soon as possible to General Porter at Manassas Junction. Fitz-John Porter was found at that point, the order given to him, and soon afterwards shown to General McDowell, who came upon the ground. The latter expressed dissatisfaction at King's division being taken from his command, and requested General Porter when he formed his line of battle to place King's division on the right of his corps, so that he (McDowell) might have his troops together (Reynolds's division being already out on the field and to the right of the road we were to follow, and Ricketts's being on the march to join the corps). It appears (see Pope's report, "Conduct of the War," supplement, page 151) that McDowell also expressed to Pope his dissatisfaction at losing King's division, and requested that it "might not be taken from his command;" upon receiving which, Pope sends to these two commanders the order directing them to move with their "joint commands towards Gainesville." The writer, at the request of Porter, piloted the head of his column, under General Morrill, into the Gainesville road; and the corps moved out on that road, followed by King's division.

Such was the origin of the celebrated Joint General Order No. 5, which has entered so largely, though not as largely as it ought, into the discussion which followed the second battle of Bull Run. The order for Porter to move reinforced by King's division was the direct result of the abandonment on our part of what Swinton very properly calls Pope's "strategic flank," where should have been concentrated every available man we could bring to bear. The joint order to both these corps commanders, it is fair to presume, was the result of this conviction forcing itself upon the mind of Pope, who, rather than reduce the force already ordered to move on Gainesville by taking King from Porter, increased that force with the remainder of McDowell's corps, thus sending the two corps or all that were available on the same mission. As Pope mentions in the joint order that he had an hour and a half before sent Porter "written orders to that effect," it follows, of course, that the movement, which is not discussed in detail in the joint order, is to be carried out just as Porter had been instructed an hour and a half before.

The effect of the joint order to the two commanders is evident to the mind of any one who has ever read the Sixty-second Article of War—"The officer highest in rank shall command the whole." That it was so understood by those concerned is proved (if proof is needed in a self-evident proposition) by the facts which transpired afterwards, when McDowell, instead of requesting Porter to arrange his troops in a certain way, ordered him, as he claims, to move against the enemy, and took King's division away from him. If Porter could attack the enemy with his own corps alone, with a prospect of attaining the object desired by Pope, how much greater would that prospect have been had the attack been made by Porter's corps reinforced by two of McDowell's divisions, and ultimately by his whole corps? And this, even supposing the attack could not have been made before Longstreet formed his junction with Jackson, which event is placed by Swinton between 10 A. M. and noon on the 29th. To estimate the time at which Porter, had his march been unimpeded, could have reached Jackson's right (not Gainesville, because that place, situated exactly at the point where the Manassas Gap railroad crosses the Warrenton pike, is about two and a half miles to the west of where Jackson's right flank rested), we must resort to estimate.

By looking at the map, it will be seen that the country road from Manassas Junction strikes the Warrenton pike at a point about two miles to the east of Gainesville. On this road King's division retreated on the night of the 28th. Leaving the pike at 2, it reached the vicinity of the Junction a little after daylight, say about 5 o'clock, the distance marched being somewhere between twelve and thirteen miles. The distance from the Junction to Centreville is between seven and eight miles; and this distance has to be passed over twice by the messenger conveying the tidings of King's movement before Porter gets the order to move from Manassas. Most of the distance was made at a gallop, and part of the time upon a very inferior horse. The delay at Centreville was not long; but, under the most favorable consideration of the circumstances, Porter could scarcely have received the order to move before some time between 8 and 9 o'clock, which, allowing him the same time to march over the distance that King had, would place him on the Warrenton pike between 11 and 12 o'clock.

But these were not all the delays which took place, for after Porter's corps had entirely passed Bethlehem church, and King's division was in the vicinity of it, a halt in the column was made, and after waiting here some considerable time, the order came for King's division to leave the Gainesville road, and move off on the Sudley Springs road, which led directly through the old battle-field of Bull Run, the scene of which we reached late in the afternoon; too late to add anything material to the result of the day's operations, although a part of the division was very heavily engaged after dark.

On reviewing the facts as here stated, the question naturally suggests itself as to the necessity or propriety of weakening the force on the Gainesville road by detaching a part of it and marching to a part of the field where Pope already had more troops than he could handle or find use for; or in other words, what "considerable advantage" was to be gained by a failure to strictly carry out Pope's order, and placing a part of the force which he designed for operations on the enemy's flank in a position where it was of no earthly use. We must admit that no satisfactory answer to this suggests itself.

General McDowell himself testifies before Porter's court that in his opinion, had Porter attacked with his corps the right wing of the enemy on the 29th, "the result would have been decisive in our favor." Hence, with a larger force and McDowell to lead it, what important results might we not expect from its operations?

We have not touched upon Porter's operations after McDowell left him, simply because we know nothing about them. But there is one remarkable fact connected with the case which it may not be inappropriate to notice; that is, that in Porter's trial this joint order is recited in one of the specifications against him, and he is tried and found guilty of disobeying it. Without attempting any defence of his conduct, the question naturally arises whether his senior is not primarily responsible for the failure to carry out Pope's plan; and although this responsibility ends from the moment when McDowell relieved himself from the command of the expedition (for it does not appear that General Order No. 5 was countermanded), and in view of the fact that military men are but too apt to base their actions upon the precedents set them by their seniors, is not Porter's conduct entitled to a more charitable construction than it received, especially in view of the fact of his previous services, and the evident necessity of finding some scapegoat on whom to place the responsibility of the failure of the campaign in Northern Virginia?

OBITUARY.

FIRST LIEUTENANT GEORGE F. MASON.

FIRST Lieutenant George F. Mason, who was killed at Fort D. A. Russell, Wyoming Territory, March 1, 1870, was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Fifth U. S. Cavalry, August 19, 1867. He was born in the District of Columbia and appointed from the State of Michigan. He served with his company in North Carolina from the date of his appointment until the fall of 1868, when he was ordered West, and served with his regiment in the Indian war, on the Kansas border, during the following winter and spring. He commanded his company during the greater portion of the campaign, and participated in several engagements. He received his promotion as first lieutenant June 22, 1869, and during that year was almost constantly in the field, taking part in every battle and skirmish which marked the operations of the Republican River expedition. He distinguished himself for dash and gallantry at the battle of Summit Springs, Colorado, July 11, 1869.

During the past four months Lieutenant Mason was stationed at this post, and in command of his company. He was a grandson of General Macomb, formerly general-in-chief of the Army, and has many relatives now in public life.

A beautiful trait in his character was displayed in his filial devotion to his widowed mother. His integrity was above reproach. His nature was warm, ardent, and impulsive. His occasional eccentricities of character never disturbed the cordial relations existing between him and his comrades; on the contrary, as his character developed and he became better understood, he made friends everywhere, but none truer or firmer than his brother officers. The service has lost in him a brave and energetic officer, who thus early gave promise of future distinction.

The pen lingers tenderly on the lines. The virtues of our deceased comrade are before us in all their beauty. His faults—who is without them?—fade away, lost in the memory of his manly character.

Farewells are always sad, yet the farewell must be written, the last tribute of manly affection is offered the memory of our deceased comrade. His life duties were well done; may as much be said of us when our time is come.

At a meeting of the officers of the Fifth U. S. Cavalry, stationed at Fort D. A. Russell, Wyoming Territory, Brevet Major S. S. Sumner, captain Fifth Cavalry, being called to the chair, appointed a committee of three officers to prepare resolutions of condolence with the relatives and friends of the late First Lieutenant George F. Mason, Fifth U. S. Cavalry.

The following resolutions were presented and unanimously adopted:

Inasmuch, as it has pleased Almighty God, in the mysteries of His providence, to remove from us by sudden and untimely death our late comrade and brother officer First Lieutenant George F. Mason, Fifth Cavalry; and

Inasmuch, as the service has lost a brave and valuable young officer, and his relatives, comrades, and friends one whose generous and noble nature has won him the esteem of all; therefore, be it

Resolved, By the officers of the Fifth Cavalry here assembled, that while in our afflictions humbly submitting ourselves to the will of God, we cannot but regret the loss of our late comrade whose death we mourn.

Resolved, That without wishing to obtrude our sorrow across the sacred threshold of domestic grief, we venture to tender the expression of our heartfelt sympathy to his afflicted and

widowed mother, in this her bereavement of one so conspicuous for his filial virtues.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be forwarded to the mother of the deceased, and that they be published in the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL, the Washington Chronicle, and Detroit daily papers.

SAMUEL S. SUMNER,

Captain Fifth U. S. Cavalry and Brevet Major U. S. A., President.

R. H. MONTGOMERY,

First Lieutenant Fifth U. S. Cavalry, and Brevet Captain U. S. A., Secretary.

FORT D. A. RUSSELL, W. T., March 4, 1870.

THE NATIONAL GUARD.

THE SEVENTY-FIRST HOWITZERS.—In a recent issue of the JOURNAL we announced that the howitzers at one time attached to this command and abandoned on the field of Bull Run were at Richmond awaiting the orders of the regiment. Since that time we have been officially informed that the Hon. Mr. (General) Slocum, member of Congress, has offered to use his personal influence to bring about the restoration of these guns to the regiment if some member of the Seventy-first will identify them. Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel and Captain Henry A. Ellis, of the Seventeenth U. S. Infantry (brother of the lamented Captain and afterward Brevet Brigadier-General and Colonel A. V. H. Ellis, of the One Hundred and Twenty-fourth U. S. Volunteers, who organized and commanded this battery at the time), has offered to purchase these guns and present them to the regiment if they cannot be otherwise obtained. The guns were necessarily abandoned on the retreat at Bull Run, they having fallen through the bridge over Cub Run, and it being found impossible to extricate them. The gallant members of the little battery stood bravely by their guns, and rendered admirable service in the retreat of our forces on the memorable day of the battle of the First Bull Run. From a sketch of the life of the late Colonel Augustus Van Horne Ellis, who commanded the battery at the time of its abandonment, which appeared in the Newburgh City Press, we make the following extract in regard to this battery:

The assault on Fort Sumter, which thrilled the land with the horror of a great and fatal crisis, threatened to repeat itself at Washington, and when the citizen soldiers of New York were summoned to defend the capital, Mr. Ellis at once indicated his readiness to enter the service and march with the Seventy-first regiment in a company commanded by a younger brother (Company F). He was at once promoted to the captaincy of Company I, and to supply the want of artillery was sent back to New York to recruit for a howitzer battery. A company of the State Militia at Newburgh, the "Parmenter Riflemen," at once volunteered for this service, and when a difficulty was encountered touching their transportation to New York, Captain Ellis met the charges at his own expense. At New York he joined his command for transportation to the Seventy-ninth (Highlanders), and proceeded with them to Washington, when he resumed his position in the Seventy-first. His battery was furnished with howitzers by Admiral Dahlgren, and the bravery and efficiency with which he served his pieces in the mad and mournful melees of Manassas drew forth the admiration and praise of his superiors; and amidst the panic and confusion which closed that fatal day, he succeeded by his coolness and skill in bringing his men off the field in safety and order.

The account further states that there were five Ellis brothers in that battle, one of whom was slain. The late Captain Ellis organized the Fifty-sixth regiment, but on account of some difficulty did not proceed with them to the field. He served again with the regiment in its second campaign, and on his return raised a regiment of infantry in six weeks' time, which was called the "Orange Blossoms," on account of having been almost entirely recruited in Orange county. At the battle of Gettysburg, the account says, "Colonel Ellis and his regiment fought bravely and lost severely; and when an order for a charge was passed along the line, Colonel Ellis, springing to his saddle (he had fought on foot), put himself in front of his regiment, and dashed to the assault with such desperate vigor that the enemy broke and ran. A look of surpassing joy lighted up the face of the commander as he turned to his men and cried, 'Victory! victory! at last.' He never spoke again. A rifle ball pierced his cap above the rim, entered and passed through the top of his brain, and reeling a moment he fell from his horse, and in a short time died."

SEVENTH INFANTRY.—The right wing of this regiment (Companies H, F, C, K, and G) is directed to assemble for battalion drill, in fatigue uniform and white belts, on Wednesday, March 23, and the left wing (Companies A, D, I, B, and E) will assemble for same purpose, in same uniform, on Monday, March 23. Roll call of companies at 8 o'clock P. M. Pursuant to Brigade Orders, a regimental Court-martial for the trial of delinquent non-commissioned officers and privates will convene at the regimental armory on Wednesday, April 6, at 8 o'clock P. M. Lieutenant-Colonel Haws has been detailed as president of the court. The Board of Examination of the command meet on Friday, April 8, at 8 o'clock P. M., for the examination of non-commissioned officers. The resignation of Major C. H. Meday has been accepted, and he has been honorably discharged from this regiment. The commandant announces in orders that "the long, faithful, and distinguished service of this officer deserves particular notice and commendation."

The following-named members having been expelled by their respective companies, the action of the companies is confirmed by Colonel Emmons Clark: Company A, W. J. O. Meaghan, W. A. Blisch; Company K, James J. Stillman.

On Tuesday evening last the right wing of this regiment, comprising Companies C, F, G, H, and K, assembled, in fatigue uniform, with white cross-belts, at the regimental armory for battalion drill. This was the first public drill held this season, and the armory therefore was well filled with spectators, a large number of whom were ladies. Colonel Clark was in command, Adjutant Fitzgerald also being present. The battalion was divided into ten commands of ten files front, and the movements executed comprised the manual, including loadings and firings, and a portion of the six parts of the school of the battalion. The entire drill was beyond criticism, very nearly perfect in every detail; the loadings and firings were without a flaw, if we make the exception of the ninth company in line, which during one fire was a little irregular. The battalion movements were, as usual, correct as a rule, but one mistake occurring, and that scarcely noticeable by the general observer. At the formation of square, a second lieutenant in command of the second company in line committed the error of remaining in his original position instead of falling to the rear. This error was repeated by the same officer at both formations of the square. We were pleased to observe that an inspection of arms preceded the loadings and firings, which was properly carrying out the suggestion we made last week in noticing the drill of the left wing; and also that the color-guard acted with the color company during the drill. The left wing assembled for drill on Thursday evening last.

SEVENTY-FIRST INFANTRY.—On Tuesday evening last the spacious armory of this command was filled to overflowing with a fashionable audience, who had gathered to witness the musical and dramatic reception or entertainment offered under the auspices of Company B, Captain Simons commanding. Since the first entertainment given some time since by Company G an improvement has been made in the arrangement of the stage, scenery, and proscenium. The scenes, of which there were an appropriate and varied number, worked smoothly, and the management of all the details, reflected credit on the committee having the affair in charge. The programme was divided into two parts, the first consisting of instrumental and vocal music, and the second of the two-act domestic drama entitled the "Momentous Question." The artists who kindly volunteered for this occasion consisted of Madame Gertrude Frunkau Hess (wife of Corporal Hess), soprano; Mr. H. R. Romeyn, tenor; and Miss Henrietta Markstein, pianist. The orchestra was under the direction of Professor D. L. Downing, leader of the Seventy-first regiment band; and Mr. G. A. Vinton, from Booth's Theatre, acted as stage manager. The musical portion of the programme was not carried out in regular order, and there was some little delay in its opening. After the overture of "Zampa," which was well rendered by the orchestra, the duet "Roberto Devereaux" was exceedingly well sung by Madame Hess and Mr. Romeyn, and elicited an encore. Miss Markstein followed with a piano solo from "Sonnambula," showing remarkable power of touch and perfection of execution. She received a well-merited encore. Mr. Romeyn then sang a tenor solo entitled "Tear." The piano solo "Madeline Waltz," rendered by Miss Markstein, was spirited and finely executed, and was followed by a soprano solo by Madame Hess entitled "Sweet Spirit, Hear my Prayer," calling forth an encore, and the well-known Scotch ballad "Within a Mile of Edinburgh Town." Mr. G. A. Vinton then recited a prologue in excellent style, giving fine illustrations of character, the recitation being well received by the audience. The characters in the drama were equally divided between members of the company and volunteers. Lieutenant Stephen Curtis, Jr., performed well the character of James Greenfield, the game-keeper. Mr. Jefferson R. Davis (no relation, it is said, to the President of the late Southern Confederacy), a member of the company, was very perfect in the character of Union Jack, the scamp of the village; as also was Mr. C. A. Piercy as Moletrap. Mr. J. U. Randall took the part of Robert Shelby, a young poacher, exceedingly well. Miss Lizzie Osborne as Rachel Ryland showed decided dramatic ability, and a charming grace of manner. The other parts were good, and the whole piece was finely put on the stage and well performed throughout. The company deserves much praise for the success of its first entertainment, and the regiment for introducing so pleasant a pastime for its members.

FIFTH INFANTRY.—On Monday evening last the drum corps of this command held a military, civic, and fancy dress ball at the Union Assembly Rooms, Elizabeth street. This corps is famous not only for its efficiency in drum-beating, but also for its skill in ball-giving, which latter explained the fact of the patronage of this occasion from the entire regiment. The fancy costumes were numerous, and included many that were exceedingly grotesque and humorous, their wearers also well supporting their assumed characters. The room was apparently free from decorations, but at the entrance to the main hall stood on guard life-size representatives of the "knight of the club," and several other figures, formed of pasteboard or some such material. The attendance was large, the company gay, and the members of the corps, headed by the popular and jovial Drum-Major Berchet, were all solicitous for the enjoyment of their guests, and did not fail to secure for them a delightful evening.

On the same evening Company C entertained its friends in like manner at the New York Casino, Houston street, and, strange to say, although two detachments of the same organization held social gatherings of similar character on the one evening, neither was affected in attendance or limited in

enjoyments by the demands of the other; which proves, what needed no such proof, that the Fifth is as social as well as a working regiment. The fancy costumes in attendance at the ball of Company C were elegant and amusing. There were the *petite vivandiere*, peasant, and flower girl, the stately dames of former times, the comical Sambo and his Dinah, the inevitable Jonathan, and innumerable other characters. Lieutenant B. Hufnagel, commanding company, who appeared in the dress of a "National Guard officer," contributed much to the comfort of the guests by his courteous attentions and general good management. This company last week elected for its commander (Lieutenant Hufnagel having declined to become a candidate) ex-Captain Hubschmann, of the Sixth regiment, vice P. Kreuger, promoted. Captain Hubschmann, who, we learn, has not as yet accepted the position, is not only a "nice man," which is the English of his name, but is also a good officer.

EIGHTH INFANTRY.—The wings of this regiment are directed to assemble for drill (in full fatigue, with cross-belts) at the State Arsenal. Right wing, Companies B, D, G, I, and K, on Tuesday, April 12; and left wing, Companies A, C, E, F, and H, on Monday, April 4, and Monday, April 18. Roll call of companies at 7:45. This regiment will assemble for battalion drill, in full fatigue, with cross-belts and white gloves, at the State Arsenal, on Thursday evening, April 21. Assembly at 7:45.

The following elections in this command are announced: Second Lieutenant Michael T. Burke, Company A, to be first lieutenant, with rank from February 14, vice Henry K. Bicker, resigned; First Sergeant William Baguley, Company A, to be second lieutenant, with rank from February 14, vice M. T. Burke, promoted. First Lieutenant Wm. E. Chapin has resigned, to date from January 17; cause, expiration of term of service.

The following have been discharged from the regiment: Company B—Sergeants Daniel A. Nash, William Maginnis, Privates Thomas Boyle, Isaac B. Caryl, for expiration of term of service; Company C—Sergeant George F. Fielding, Private Robert Edwards, for expiration of term of service; Company E—Privates Jacob S. Hartman, James Shaw, John Rader, for expiration of term of service; Company F—Privates Alfred Williams, Philip Hammill, Cornelius D. Meyers, for expiration of term of service; Company H—Privates Wm. F. Harriot, Leopold Dietrich, Robert Boyd, for expiration of term of service.

FIRST BRIGADE, FIRST DIVISION.—The following officers are announced as composing the staff of Brigadier-General Wm. G. Ward, commanding this brigade: Major James L. Anthony, assistant adjutant-general and chief of staff; Major Edward Gilon, brigade inspector; Major Edgar Ketchum, Jr., engineer; Major George R. Schieffelin, judge-advocate; Major George O. Starr, hospital surgeon; Captain John T. Denny, ordnance officer; Captain Andrew G. Agnew, quartermaster; Captain John D. Probst, commissary of subsistence; Captain Rowland M. Hall and Lieutenant William W. Mall, aides-de-camp.

The headquarters of this brigade will remain as before established, at 54 Wall street.

The following list of the returns and reports required to be made by the officers of this brigade is subjoined for their information and guidance:

BY COMMANDING OFFICERS OF REGIMENTS.—To Brigade Headquarters.—A.—Consolidated report, on blanks furnished by brigade headquarters, within five days after each regimental or battalion parade or drill (General Orders No. 5, from brigade headquarters, series 1867, as now modified).

(Note.—Drills by wing or division require but one consolidated report for each series.)

B.—Roster of officers, with residences, on or before the 1st of June in each year (paragraph 493, General Regulations).

C.—Copy of every general or special order on date of issue (paragraph 474, General Regulations).

D.—Return of officers elected, within ten days after such election (section 67, Military Code), endorsed approved or disapproved, with a view to application of section 55, Military Code.

E.—Return of manoeuvres practised between the 1st and 15th of November (paragraph 527, General Regulations).

F.—Return of chief of staff, on or before November 1 (section 250, Military Code).

To Adjutant-General's Office.—A.—"Special return," on or before May 1 (paragraph 668, General Regulations).

B.—Return of all discharges granted, January 1 and July 1 (section 146, Military Code).

To Commissary-General.—Return of ordnance and quartermaster's stores, September 1 (section 5, chapter 612, Laws 1865).

To Brigade Inspector.—Three copies of muster roll of field staff at annual inspection (General Orders No. 21, series 1868, General Headquarters).

BY COMMANDING OFFICERS OF COMPANIES.—To Regimental Headquarters.—A.—Consolidated report, within two days after each drill or parade by division, wing, battalion, or regiment.

B.—Return of officers, non-commissioned officers, musicians, and privates, with residences, on or before the 1st of June (paragraph 496, General Regulations).

C.—Copy of every order issued, on date of issue (paragraph 474, General Regulations).

D.—Return of non-commissioned officers elected, with approval or disapproval noted thereon (section 79, Military Code).

E.—"Special return," on or before 1st of April (paragraph 669, General Regulations).

F.—Return of members to be dropped from the rolls, at least three weeks before annual inspection (General Orders No. 18, series 1868, General Headquarters).

To Brigade Inspector.—Four copies of muster roll, at annual inspection (General Orders No. 21, series 1868, General Headquarters, and section 154, Military Code).

BY REGIMENTAL QUARTERMASTERS.—To Commissary-Gen-

eral of Ordnance.—Report as to condition of armories, arms, equipments, uniforms, etc., on or before 1st of November (paragraph 868, General Regulations).

In addition to the above, returns and reports may be required at any time by superior or commanding officers, for information as to state of their command (paragraph 498 and paragraph 676, General Regulations).

FIFTY-FOURTH INFANTRY.—We have received the following letter from one of the officers of this regiment in explanation of the trouble existing in the regiment:

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

Sir: Having noticed an article in your issue of the 5th inst. commenting upon a petition forwarded to the field officers of the Fifty-fourth regiment by the line, requesting them to tender their resignations, and being myself one of the officers whose names are attached to said petition, I take the liberty, in the name of the line officers, of addressing you this communication, with a view of explaining, if possible, in a concise manner, the reason of this seemingly extraordinary action on our part, and especially to vindicate our regiment from the charges of insubordination and lack of discipline. During the past year there has unfortunately arisen a feeling of antagonism between the field and line officers, which all knew must eventually result in some public expression of opinion on the part of both parties. (When I speak of the field, permit me to explain that the term in this case applies to the lieutenant-colonel and major only, to whom this petition was addressed.) This difference between the officers, instead of dying out as time elapsed, on the contrary grew to such proportions as to culminate in the correspondence heretofore mentioned. Every possible means was taken on our part to avoid such a course; we were reasonable in our demands, attentive to our duty as soldiers, were willing to and did obey, as a matter of course, all orders emanating from our superiors without hesitation, and up to this date have done nothing which may be construed as a breach of discipline; in fact, every step taken has been in accordance with the military laws of the State. For we hold that in the militia service, which of course is voluntary on the part of those composing it, and wherein both officers and men have the right and power to choose their immediate superiors by ballot, if such superior officers prove incompetent in the view of those electing them, or in any way a detriment to the command, then the electors have the right and the privilege, if they see fit, to request in a respectful manner that such officers tender their resignations. So reasoning, we have acted accordingly, and will stand by our action in the matter to the last extremity. As for our immediate reasons for preferring this request, they are only too well known in this vicinity, and perhaps of too local a nature to require the details to be given at present, and would, perhaps, prove to be uninteresting to those who are not acquainted with all the circumstances; but let it suffice that when twenty-two out of twenty-six officers now holding commissions in this regiment (the remaining four being indifferent and desiring to take no part on either side) express themselves in so decided a manner, there must, necessarily, be good and sufficient reasons demanding such an expression.

In regard to efficiency and discipline, any one who is conversant with the history of the National Guard of the State of New York will concede that the Fifty-fourth regiment was never found wanting when called upon to perform any duty which was required of it by the authorities. In common with all militia regiments, it is not our fortune to be often placed in positions of danger, or to perform any hard or laborious service for the State or General Government, but it is the opportunity and not the will which is lacking; and I believe I can truly say that never since the organization of our regiment has there been such a unanimity of feeling and a general desire on the part of both officers and men to place the regiment on a sound footing, and bring it up to a standard to compete with your best New York regiments, in point of numbers, discipline, and general efficiency; and so we shall do if the proper encouragement and support is extended to us by those in authority. True, at the last general inspection our numbers were small, therefore our returns were meagre, and of course unsatisfactory; but by reference to the inspector's reports we find that the discipline and soldierly bearing of the men was good, for which the officers received due credit; but arms, uniforms, and equipments being worn out, numbers of the men turned out in citizen's dress, their officers being unable to furnish them with even a worn-out uniform. Do not understand this as a complaint, but merely an explanation. Efforts are now being made through the proper channels which we hope will bring about a change. Let us once have good officers, uniforms, and equipments in plenty, and we pledge ourselves to produce a regiment which will at once be the pride and boast of Western New York.

Trusting that you will give this communication a place in your valuable columns, I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THOMAS L. GRANT,

Captain Company H, Fifty-fourth regiment N. G.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., March 8, 1870.

THIRTEENTH INFANTRY.—We congratulate this regiment on the recent accession of new members. It has gained at least one hundred and fifty men during the past few weeks. The majority of these new members come from the recently disbanded Fifty-sixth, who have lost no time in attaching themselves to one of the most popular commands of the division. One entire company (C) of the latter regiment, containing 45 men in all, was mustered out of the one regiment and into the other, on the same evening, forming Company E of the Thirteenth, Brevet Captain and First Lieutenant Thomas Dean, of Company B, being detailed to the command until an election for officers. Captain Ava W. Powell, the competent commander of Company C, has resigned. Captain Powell proposes taking up his permanent residence in the South, and has accordingly tendered his resignation. Under his efficient control Company C increased in strength and general discipline until it now stands very high among the companies of the regiment. It has recently received an accession of some 25 men from Company D of the disbanded Fifty-sixth infantry, thus doubly assuring its prosperity. The assumption by ex-Major Bush, late of the Fifty-sixth, of the command of Company I, has increased that company from a mere squad to a full company, parading at drills some 40 men. The class of men recently taken into this company is of the best, the majority being men of good size and heretofore not connected with any organization. The other companies of the regiment have increased proportionally, and by next fall the old Thirteenth will be able to parade, we infer, larger than any command in the Second division.

On Monday evening last, Companies B, D, and F assembled in fatigue uniform at the regimental armory, Brooklyn, for battalion drill. The companies were divided into four commands of six files front, Lieutenant-Colonel Briggs in command, assisted by Major Daniell, First Lieutenant Laidlaw of Company D being detailed as adjutant. The limited space of the room afforded but little opportunity for the execution of many battalion movements, and the drill was therefore mainly devoted to marching in column of fours and the manual, considerable time being employed in loadings and firings. The marchings were very fair and the men generally steady. The execution of the manual was generally good, but the loadings and firings were at times a little irregular. During the latter we were, at one time, at a loss to know who really was in command of the battalion, for in one instance, the command being "Fire by wing," the right wing having fired, the acting adjutant gave the command "Left wing ready," which should have properly been given by the commandant of the battalion. This movement was promptly checked by the lieutenant-colonel commanding, and occurred, without a doubt, from a natural desire on the part of the acting adjutant to be prompt in his action. The members of the companies forming the battalion appeared in new fatigue uniforms. Battalion drills of Companies A, G, and I, took place on Wednesday evening, and on Thursday evening H, E, and K.

MAJOR-GENERAL SHALER.—We give below General Orders No. 1, current series, from headquarters First division, promulgating the order from general headquarters dismissing the so-called charges and specifications against the commandant of the division:

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, N. G. S. N. Y.,
NEW YORK, March 16, 1870.

General Orders No. 1.

The following Special Order from general headquarters is promulgated for the information of this command:

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS, STATE OF NEW YORK,
ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, ALBANY, March 12, 1870.
Special Orders No. 33.

It appearing to the satisfaction of the Commander-in-Chief, upon his examination of the charges and specifications made by Colonel and Brevet Brigadier-General John E. Bendix, commanding the Fifth regiment infantry, N. G. S. N. Y., against Major-General Alexander Shaler, commanding the First division of the National Guard, and of the official records in the Adjutant-General's office, that no sufficient grounds exist for ordering a court-martial thereon, it is hereby ordered that the said charges and specifications be dismissed.

By order of the Commander-in-Chief.

FRANKLIN TOWNSEND, Adjutant-General.
By order of Major-General Alexander Shaler.

JOHN FOWLER, JR.,
Colonel, Assistant Adjutant-General, and Chief of Staff.
Official: CARL JUSSEN,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

Governor Hoffman acted wisely and generously in so promptly dismissing these charges. Advertising a complaint before it is entitled to be considered as a charge, is certainly a novel idea, and one not calculated to impress military men with the profundity of the responsible person's knowledge of military laws and customs. That the several allegations, even if they could have been proved, would have been considered frivolous in the extreme, and that they are untrue in all essential points, is alike evidenced by the above order.

It should be well understood that charges and specifications have no vitality until the officer to whom the accused is responsible has approved of them; and therefore a person giving them publicity in advance of such action exposes himself, if they are not approved, to an accusation of slander, or in any event is guilty of great impropriety. The habit of making the public press the vehicle of casting suspicion on an officer, or any portion of his command, should be discountenanced by every officer and member who respects himself and the service. It ought to be unnecessary to do more than invite the serious attention of officers to this subject, to insure a discontinuance of what must, if permitted to pass unnoticed, result in time in undermining the very foundation of the military structure. For every offence against military propriety there is a military remedy, and the ends of justice are easily, and only correctly attained, by an appeal to the legitimate tribunal.

JUDGE INGRAHAM'S NATIONAL GUARD DECISION.—The decision of Judge Ingraham of the Supreme Court in the matter of William Sinclair, Jr., discharging a member of the Seventy-first Infantry, imprisoned for non-payment of fines imposed by a court-martial, is of the greatest interest to the National Guard. If correct, the discipline of the organization will be most seriously affected, for the collection of small fines by any other process than that of personal imprisonment, will be futile in nine cases out of ten; and if the fines imposed for non-performance of duty cannot be collected, or disobedience and insubordination punished, the system is a farce. Without desiring to impugn the motives or the learning of the Judge rendering this decision, it is enough to say that it is founded upon a clear mistake of the provisions of the militia law as they now exist, and is but another example that familiarity with the general principles of civil law by no means carries with it a corresponding acquaintance with the Military Code.

The opinion rendered by Judge Ingraham in this case states that by the bungling manner in which the amendment of 1865 to the Military Code was drawn, section 226 (directing the retention in custody of a delinquent arrested under warrant issued by a court-martial) was amended by the first section, while, by the eighth section of the same act, the same section was repealed. It then goes on to state that section

225 of the original act of 1862 (authorizing the incorporation of a clause in the warrant directing the marshal to arrest and imprison the delinquent) was repealed by the act of 1865, and that therefore there is no authority for the "officer serving the warrant to arrest the delinquent. No such authority is given by statute, nor can the officer issuing the warrant order such arrest. No other person has any such authority, and unless specific authority for the arrest is given to the marshal, he would be a trespasser in so doing;" and that section 242 does not cure the defect, as it "only authorizes the performance of the usual duties of marshals, and to execute the process issued. It does not authorize the marshal to do an act which the warrant does not direct"—thus conceding that if the warrant did authorize him to make the arrest, he would be authorized to execute it. As far as this decision construes the law as existing in 1865, it is perfectly correct; but it is an extraordinary circumstance that it entirely ignores the fact that for the purpose of curing the defect in the act of 1865, the Legislature of 1866 expressly amended section 225 by adding at the end thereof the words, "and in default of sufficient goods and chattels with which to satisfy the same, then to take the body of such delinquent and convey him to the common jail of such city and county." (Laws 1866, chapter 809, section 225.)

By this provision the law was restored to its former condition, and the right of arrest and imprisonment placed beyond question. This view of the law has been universally accepted as being conclusive, and although many applications have been made to the courts for relief from imprisonment, it has never before been even suggested that there was no law authorizing the commitment.

As the decision was undoubtedly made in ignorance of the fact of the existence of the amendment of 1866, it will probably not form a precedent in other cases, but it is the duty of the officers of the National Guard to see that the injurious effect resulting from it is overcome either by an appeal from the decision itself or by opposing any further application that may be made. If this course is not taken, incalculable injury may be sustained to the best interests of the National Guard, and great annoyance be experienced by suits for false imprisonment, etc., being instituted by those heretofore arrested, against the officers acting against them.

This case was again opened by request of Major George R. Schieffelin, the judge-advocate of the First brigade, on Thursday morning last, for a revision of the points previously submitted, but the decision as rendered in the first instance was adhered to. The case will be appealed. Meanwhile all the prisoners incarcerated for military fines have been released from Ludlow street jail.

FIFTY-FIFTH INFANTRY.—The officers of this progressive organization on Tuesday evening last held their first annual reunion at Irving Hall. An exclusively officers' ball is something original in the National Guard, but what the "Garde Lafayette" has started is likely soon to become a custom. The ball-room was comfortably filled with a very elegant assemblage, and the attendance of the officers of the division was very large. Among the most prominent of these were Major-General Shaler and staff, Brigadier-General Varian and staff, and the field and staff of nearly all the regiments of the Third brigade. Colonel Allen, Lieutenant-Colonel Guth, Major Schilling, Captains Boehrer and Newmaster, and the officers of the regiment generally, spared neither pains nor expense in extending the courtesies of the evening to all guests, and the whole entertainment was characterized by the utmost sociability and hearty generosity. The order of dancing was in the form of a miniature knapsack, with overcoat rolled, and was very neat. The officers may well feel proud of their ball.

VARIOUS ITEMS.

The competitive drill between Private James Fitzpatrick of the Sarsfield Guard, of New Haven, Connecticut, and Lieutenant Frank Connary, of the Montgomery Guard, of Bridgeport, took place in Franklin Hall, Hartford, on the evening of the 8th instant. About two hundred military men of Bridgeport, Hartford, New Haven, and other parts of the State, were present. Major Gilbert, of New Haven, was appointed judge. The drill lasted from about eight o'clock until a quarter past ten. They drilled first together, then separately. In reversing arms, and loading and firing kneeling, they were about equal, but Connary was the better at loading and firing lying. In executing the motions according to time, Fitzpatrick numbered ninety-two motions per minute, and Connary a hundred and nine. The contest was finally decided by the judges in favor of Connary. The officers of the Twenty-second Infantry have caused to be beautifully engrossed a set of resolutions to be presented to the authorities and the ladies of Sing Sing, in acknowledgment of courtesies extended by the former, and the elegant stand of national colors presented by the latter on the occasion of the regiment's excursion to the above city for rifle practice, last May. This testimonial has been prepared under the personal supervision of Captain R. Vose, of Company D, and is handsomely framed in black walnut, its size being three and a half by four and a half feet. We are asked whether fatigue uniform requires an officer to appear in his sash. "The sash will be worn (over the coat) on all occasions of duty of every description except stable and fatigue." (See Revised Regulations, paragraph 1,535.) "The sword and sword belt will be worn upon all occasions of duty, without exceptions." (Paragraph 1,548.) The regimental armory of the Forty-seventh Infantry in Brooklyn, E. D., which about a year ago was apparently thoroughly repaired, has now been declared

in a leaky condition, so that the elegantly frescoed rooms fitted up at the expense of the members themselves are likely to be again seriously injured. Here is another chance for a political "job." The First company of the Seventh, which one of the daily papers assures us is thoroughly demoralized, nevertheless paraded at the recent drills twenty-two files. This is what we should call a healthy demoralization. Major Gilon, First brigade inspector, has recently completed a thorough inspection of the books and papers of the different organizations of the brigade, and will shortly render a detailed report to Brigadier-General Ward. Officers will do well to study the detailed statement of requirements for returns, reports, etc., which we publish under the First brigade. Officers of the National Guard would do well to study and imitate the admirable manner in which Colonel Clark, of the Seventh, gives his commands. It is clear, decided, soldierly. By dwelling long on the cautionary commands he secures attention, and prepares for the prompt execution of movements. To this method of Colonel Clark the unrivalled steadiness of the Seventh is very much due. A promenade concert will be given at the regimental armory of the Seventy-first Infantry, 118 West Thirty-second street, on Saturday evening, the 19th inst. Adjutant Shenfield's communication is of necessity crowded out this week. Colonel George T. Hall, of Major-General Woodward's staff, Second division, on Monday evening last entertained at his residence, Brooklyn, the commandants of the division and their chiefs of staff. Company E of the Forty-seventh regiment gave a very successful promenade concert and hop at their armory on Wednesday evening. A bouquet was presented to every lady.

CHANGES IN THE NATIONAL GUARD.

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS STATE OF NEW YORK,
ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, ALBANY, March 14, 1870.

The following named officers have been commissioned by the Commander-in-Chief in the N. G. S. N. Y. since March 1, 1870:

NINTH BRIGADE.

Frederick T. Martin, captain and aide-de-camp, with rank from March 1, 1870, vice A. Winne, resigned.

Thomas O'Malley, first lieutenant and aide-de-camp, with rank from March 1, 1870, vice F. T. Martin, promoted.

TENTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

Charles E. Van Aernum, captain, with rank from February 9, 1870, vice Thomas Austin, resigned.

Matthias A. Hook, first lieutenant, with rank from February 8, 1870, vice James Chatterly, resigned.

THIRTEENTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

Allen C. Bush, captain, with rank from January 28, 1870, vice C. C. Graves, resigned.

TWENTY-THIRD REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

Robert P. Lyon, second lieutenant, with rank from February 8, 1870, vice Franklin Colt, resigned.

Charles S. West, first lieutenant, with rank from February 14, 1870, vice H. S. Manning, resigned.

TWENTY-SIXTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

Charles H. Bracie, second lieutenant, with rank from January 17, 1870, original.

FIFTY-FIRST REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

John G. Dunn, quartermaster, with rank from February 21, 1870, vice J. W. Yull, resigned.

Lewis C. Thurwachter, commissary, with rank from February 21, 1870, vice J. G. Dunn, promoted.

George M. Johnson, captain, with rank from February 11, 1870, vice A. C. Jones, dismissed.

FIFTY-FIFTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

Joseph E. Poper, first lieutenant, with rank from February 16, 1870, vice J. Kozlowsky, resigned.

SIXTY-NINTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

Martin McDonnell, first lieutenant, with rank from January 19, 1870, vice Patrick Curley, resigned.

SEVENTY-FIRST REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

John R. Davenport, second lieutenant, with rank from February 4, 1870, vice Thomas Girvan, Jr., promoted.

SEVENTY-NINTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

Alexander Croall, captain, with rank from February 17, 1870, vice Peter M. Grant, resigned.

NINETY-SIXTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

Henry Reuting, captain, with rank from February 9, 1870, vice J. J. C. Wenter, resigned.

Jacob Aberle, first lieutenant, with rank from February 9, 1870, vice H. Reuting, promoted.

George Schuchard, captain, with rank from February 21, 1870, vice G. Straus, deceased.

Conrad Doell, first lieutenant, with rank from February 21, 1870, vice G. Schuchard, promoted.

RESIGNATIONS.

The resignations of the following named officers have been accepted by the Commander-in-Chief during the same period:

FIFTH BRIGADE.

William H. McNary, engineer, March 3, 1870.

NINTH BRIGADE.

Archibald Winne, captain and aide-de-camp, March 3, 1870.

FIFTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

Joseph Sattig, adjutant, March 8, 1870.

John Kimmel, first lieutenant, March 8, 1870.

NINTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

John H. Wilcox, colonel and brevet brigadier-general, February 28, 1870.

TWELFTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

William H. Smith, first lieutenant, February 28, 1870.

John C. Moore, first lieutenant, February 28, 1870.

TWENTY-THIRD REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

W. J. Martin, first lieutenant, February 28, 1870.

THIRTY-SEVENTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

John J. Mandeville, first lieutenant, February 28, 1870.

NINETY-SIXTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

F. Snyder, first lieutenant, February 28, 1870.

BREVET AND STAFF RANK.

WHEN, on Thursday of last week, the Army bill was under consideration in the House of Representatives, Hon. J. B. Donley, of Pennsylvania, in the course of an able speech on the subject, made the following pertinent remarks:

Thus far the bill has received my unqualified approval and support, but there are one or two features which I think should be modified or stricken out. If, however, the House decides otherwise, I shall cheerfully submit and not hesitate to vote for the bill on its passage. It seems to me that the brevet titles gained by meritorious service, and costing nothing to the Government, should not at one fell stroke be entirely destroyed. They are esteemed as highly as the Frenchman prizes his cross of the Legion of Honor, and we should hesitate before stripping the gallant soldier of his hard-earned decoration. He will keenly feel the degradation imposed by the country which he serves. Refuse to confer the rank, if you choose, in time of peace, but let those wear the honor who by valor and skill have already secured it.

The reduction of the heads of the staff corps from their present rank to a lower grade is, to my mind, unjust to the present incumbents. It has been said that they can retire if they do not choose to accept and let others take their places; but that is hardly a sound argument, though often used in other connections as well as in this. Most of these gentlemen gained their positions, and all for efficient service during the war, and every soldier knows how well they did their work; for the wants of no army in the world were ever so well administered to as those of the Federal Army during the Rebellion by the chiefs whom we now propose to degrade. Their services are yet required, for there are yet great duties to be performed under their supervision, and it is not proposed to dispense with them. Why then reduce them?

As an example of the injustice of this measure, take the case of the Quartermaster-General, whose loyalty and ability at the head of his department have been so conspicuous since 1861. The proposition to strip him of the rank personally conferred by President Lincoln for gigantic labors efficiently executed, and reduce him to a colonel's grade and pay, and at the same time imposing upon him the responsibility of the disbursement of \$15,000,000 during the coming year, is unwise, and should not receive the sanction of Congress. These officers are compelled, by the necessity of their positions, to reside in the capital of the nation, the most expensive city of the United States; and I submit we should not, in justice to them, for this reason as well as others, adopt this feature of the bill. If the Government would have honest, faithful servants, it must be true to them. Let us be just to all, to the country, to the Army, and to ourselves.

AN Army officer writes from Texas to the Cincinnati Commercial:

In 1865 I was commanding a regiment stationed at Petersburg, Va. One day a man came into camp, bringing with him his wife, a lot of children, half a dozen dogs, and his household implements. He soon came to the office, reported as a second lieutenant, and was assigned to a captain who had no subaltern officers.

The next day the officer sent him back to me with a note, in which he said he did not want such a man about, and begging me, by all the ties of good fellowship, not to saddle such an infliction upon him. So I began to cross-examine the patriot, and soon found that he tore our noble language into linguistic tatters, and that he could scarce read or write. I asked him if he had been before the Army Examining Board. "No," he said, "I am a particular friend of Mr. Johnson's." "Ah! you are a friend of the President's, are you?" He replied he had been on his body-guard when he was Governor. "Then, I suppose," I asked, "that you did some good service during the war?" "I never fit a lick," answered Mr. Johnson's friend. "You never—" "Fit a lick," he responded with greater emphasis.

A few days after, the post adjutant, who was a West Pointer, with a very high sense of military proprieties, had occasion to address the gentleman a note to learn why he had not attended a stated roll-call. The orderly soon came back and handed the adjutant his note with an indorsement upon it, at which I saw him stare as though it conveyed some intelligence too dreadful for belief. "What's the matter?" I demanded. "Great Heavens," he gasped, "if that woman hasn't written this indorsement." I took the paper and read:

"My husband didn't attend roll-call 'cause he was *tu tite*.
"Yours respectfully,
"MOLLIE FROLLINGER."

MARSHAL Regnaud de Saint Jean d'Angely has lately died at Cannes. He was born in 1794, and entered the army very early. In 1812, assous-lieutenant of Chasseurs, he took part in the Russian campaign. The first battle at which he was present was that of Moscow, the last Solferino. He was decorated with the cross of the Legion d'Honneur at the battle of Hanau, and was engaged on almost every field where France fought, including Dresden, Leipzig, and Waterloo. The Government of the Restoration excluded him from the army list, and he afterward served as a volunteer under General Maison in Greece. He re-entered the French army in 1829, and advanced speedily in his career. The Marshal served in the Crimean campaign as commander-in-chief of the Imperial Guards. His titular rights pass to his son-in-law, M. Dauvillier, an Imperial Equerry.

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DIED.

LUTTRELL.—At Fort Sully, D. T., February 27, 1870, VAN NESS LUTTRELL, infant son of G. S. Luttrell and Louise Garsché Ward, aged 9 months.
CHAFFEE.—At Austin, Texas, February 26, 1870, ELLA ESTELLE, infant daughter of Brevet Major A. R. Chaffee, Sixth Cavalry, aged three months and three days.

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215 TONS HAY.
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Each bid must be accompanied by a guarantee, signed by two responsible persons, that in case the bid is accepted, and a contract entered into, they will become security, in a sum equal to one fourth of the amount of the contract, for the faithful performance of the same.

No bid will be entertained that is not made in accordance with this advertisement.

The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids regarded as disadvantageous to the Department.

Proposals must be addressed to the undersigned, and indorsed "Proposals for Forage."

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Captain, and Brevet Major U. S. A., Quartermaster U. S. A.

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